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# ANALYSIS OF PRETRIAL DETENTION ADMISSIONS, 1988
# MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

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Bureau of Planning, Research, and Systems

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Western Region - Bob Phelps and Steve Tansey

Central Region - Delores Marchese

Northeast Region - Debbie Jellison

Southeast Region - Lee Ann Roy and Janet Gabourel

Metro Region - Glenda Green

To produce this report, a great deal of work was done on quality control in a very short period of time. This was accomplished by an extraordinary effort on the part of Bob Phelps and Steve Tansey from the Western Region, Bruce Seaver from the Central Region, and Lynn Aldrich from the Southeast Region and I want to give special thanks to each of them for their effort. In addition, thanks is in order to Joseph Balbo for his extensive computer programming that provided me with much of the data that formed the basis of the report. Finally, a special thanks to Beverly A. Saunders for her many hours of dedicated and thorough coordination and assistance with the quality control of the data that was necessary in order for this report to come to fruition.

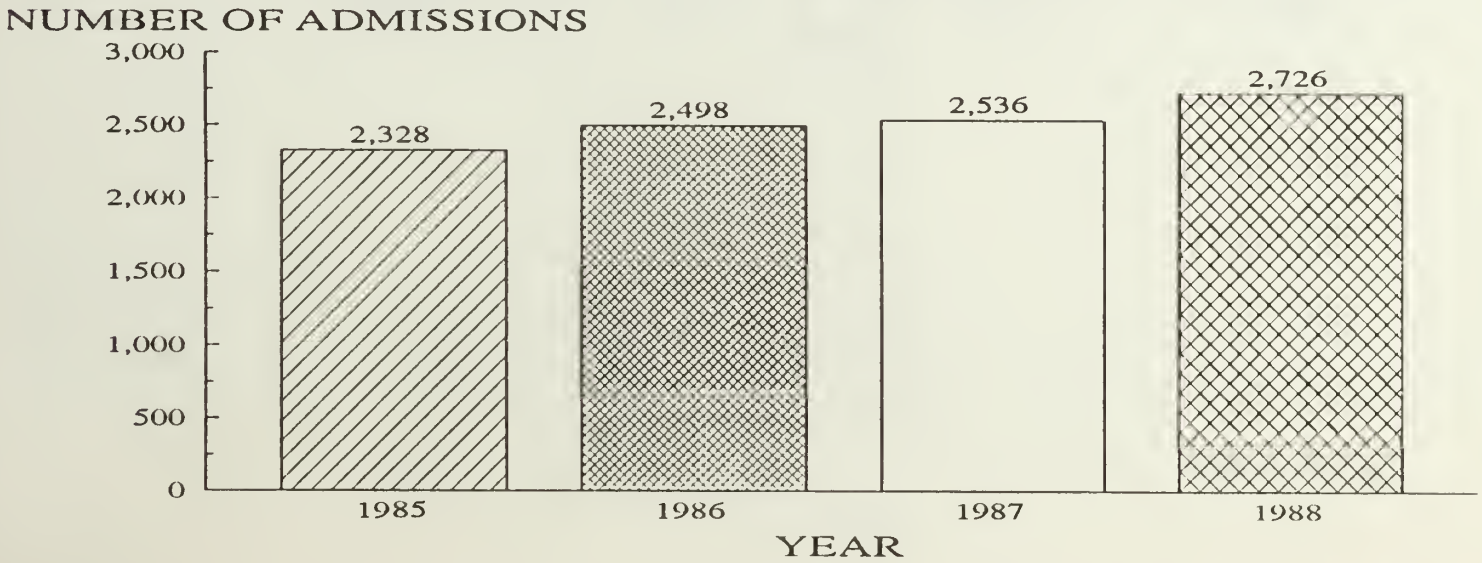
# INTRODUCTION

This report is the first of an annual analysis of youth on bail status who were held in pretrial detention produced by the Bureau of Planning, Research, and Systems. This particular report concerns those youth on bail held in detention during 1988. This data is collected and coded at the time of a youth's admission into the detention system and entered into the Department of Youth Services' automated client tracking system.

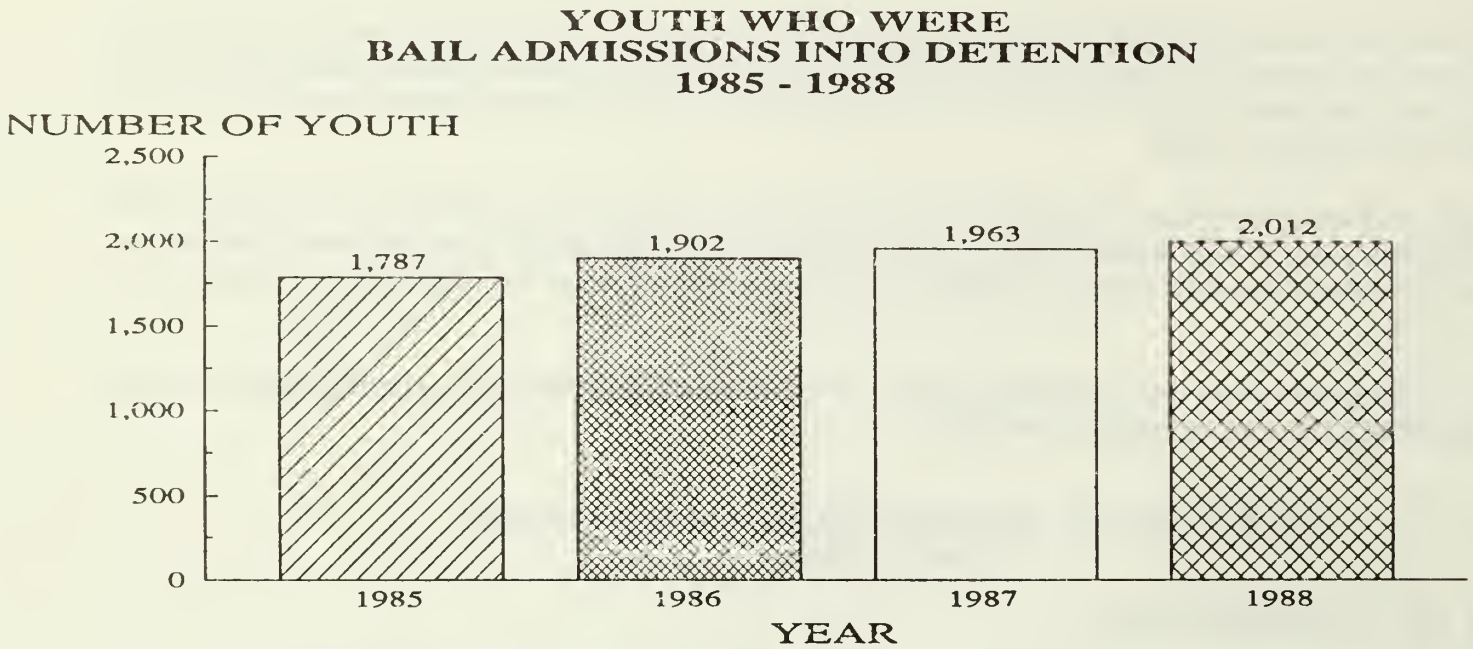
The report is divided into four sections. Section I discusses recent trends in pretrial detention admissions by comparing 1988 data to the previous three years. Section II looks at 1988 detention admissions, highlighting any differences between regions and across demographic variables. Section III focuses on regional descriptions of the bail population while Section IV looks at court information.

There were 2,726 bail admissions into the detention system of the Department of Youth Services during 1988. This figure represents an increase of 7.5% or 190 admissions from 1987.

**TOTAL BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS**
**1985 - 1988**



Since many youth are admitted into the detention system more than once during a year, this figure does not represent the total number of youth admitted into the detention system. During 1988, there were 2,012 youth admitted into the detention system which represents an increase of 2% or 49 youth compared to 1987.



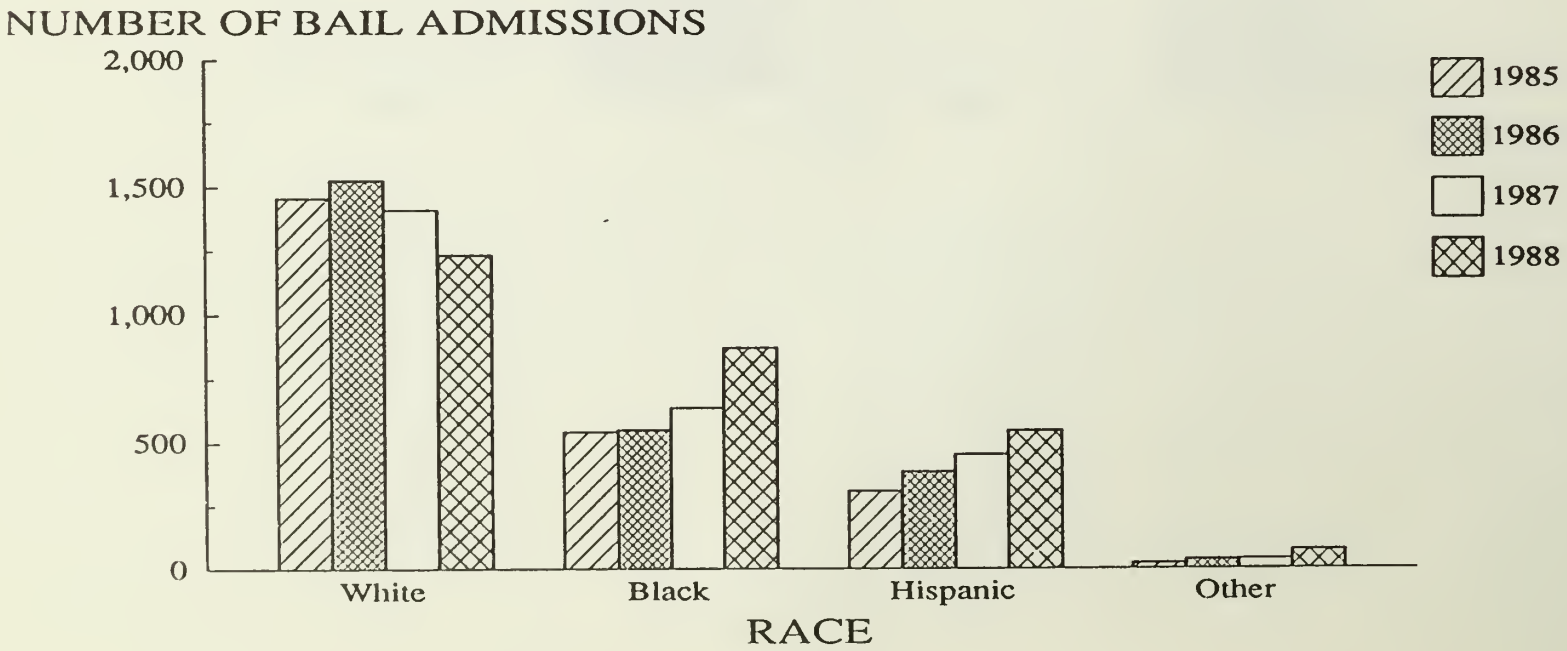
# SECTION I - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1985 - 1988

## SECTION I. CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1985 - 1988

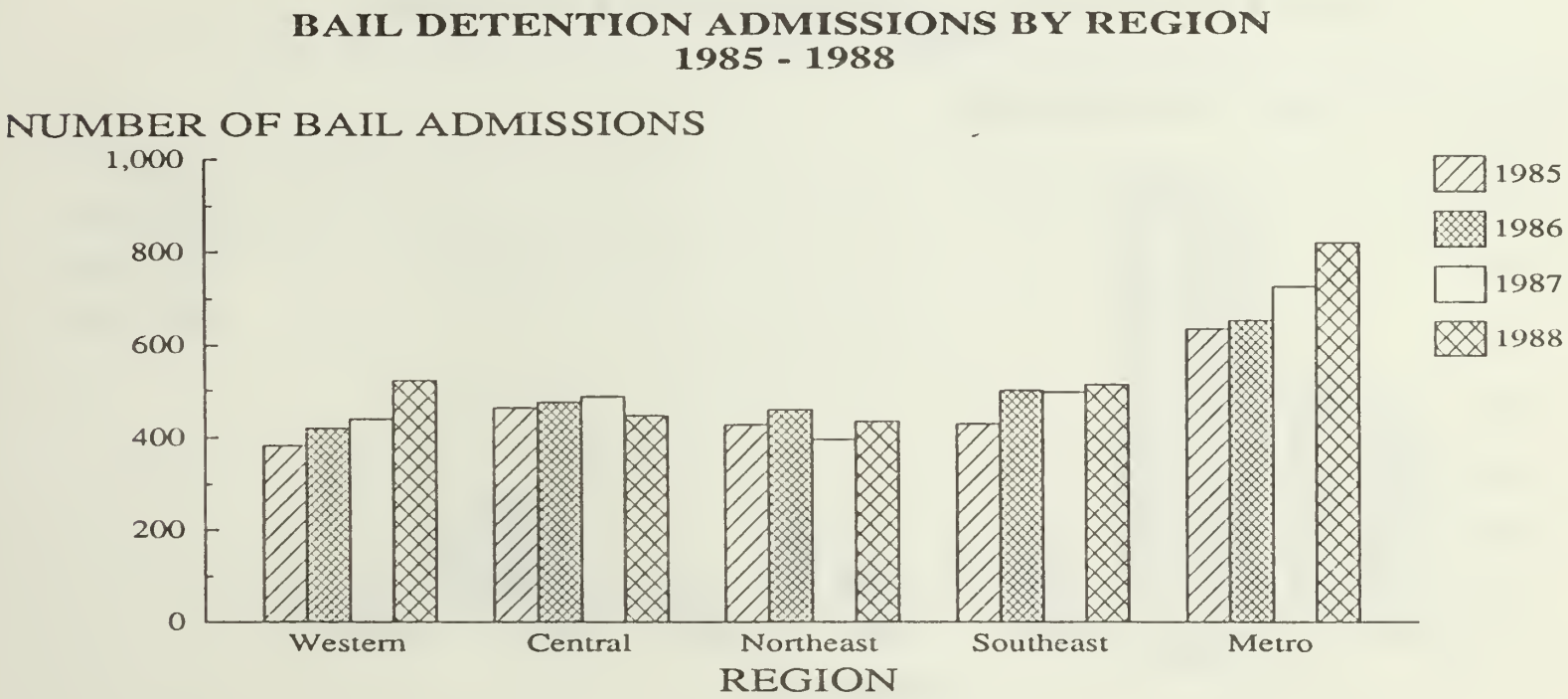
SEX: The number of bail admissions during 1988 who were female was approximately equal to the 1985 total (451 vs. 436 respectively). The trend from 1985 to 1987 was for slightly increasing numbers of female bail detention admissions but that changed during 1988. Compared to 1987, the number of bail detention admissions who were male increased by eleven percent during 1988 while the number of females decreased by nine percent.

RACE: The racial proportion of bail detention admissions has changed significantly over the past four years. The number of bail admissions who were white increased from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 the number has steadily decreased. At the same time as this has occurred, the number of black and Hispanic bail admissions has been increasing. In 1985, white youth represented 63% of the bail admission population, black youth represented 23%, and Hispanic youth represented 13%; however, during 1988 white youth represented 45% of the bail admission population, black youth 32%, and Hispanic youth 20%.

### BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### 1985 - 1988



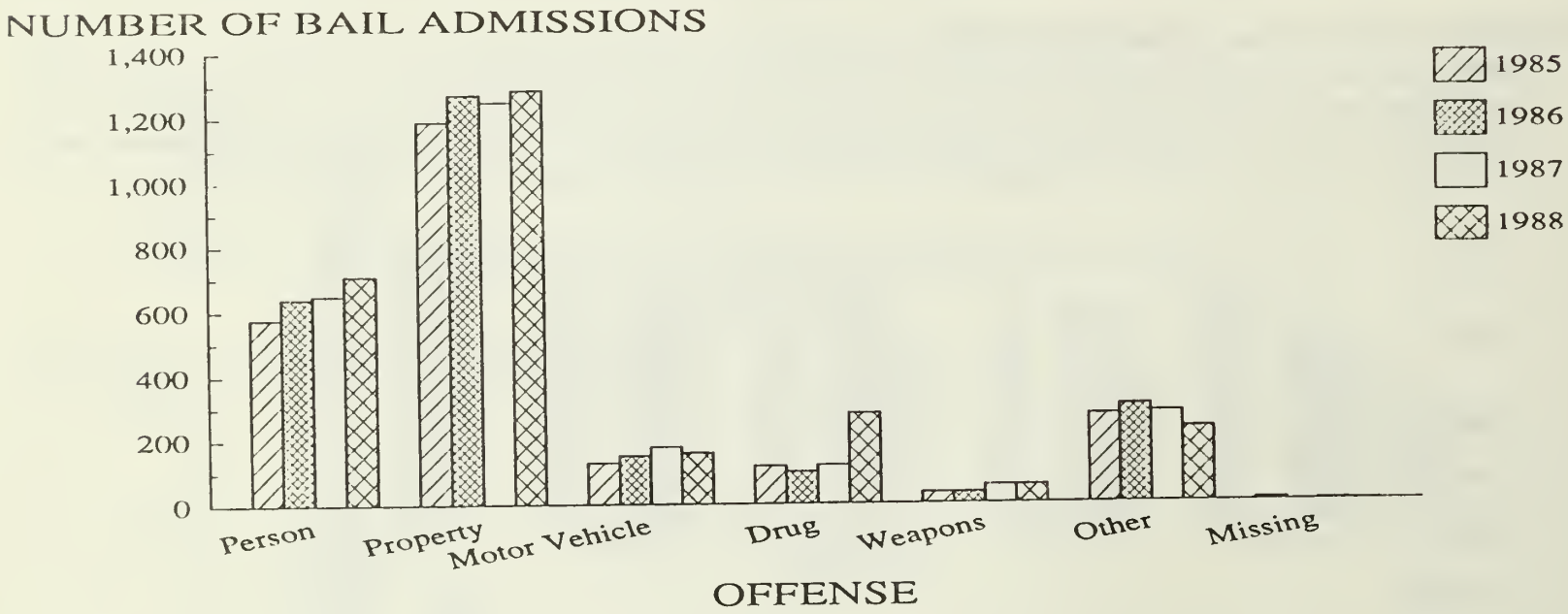
REGION: The Metro Region has consistently had the highest number of bail admissions of any region in each of the past four years. Compared to 1985, the Metropolitan Boston Region has experienced a twenty-nine percent increase in their bail detention admissions. However, the region with the largest percentage increase since 1985 is the Western Region which has experienced a thirty-seven percent increase in their bail admissions.




AGE: There have been fluctuations in the age categories for bail detention admissions during the past four years. However, there has been a constant increase from 1985 to 1988 in the number of bail admissions who were sixteen years of age at the time of their admission into detention. Compared to 1987, there were dramatic increases in bail admissions who were seventeen years of age (+18%) and thirteen years of age (+25%).

OFFENSE: There has been a fairly consistent, though small, increase in bail admissions who were being held in detention for offenses against the person. While the most common offense remains an offense against property, the bail admission numbers have not made any dramatic changes. From 1987 to 1988, there has been a dramatic increase in bail admissions for drug offenses (+134%).

**BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE**
**1985 - 1988**




BAIL AMOUNT: There have been fluctuations in the amount of bail for the detention admissions from 1985 to 1988. Overall, there has been a trend toward increases in the higher bail amount categories; from 1985 to 1988 there have been increases in the admissions receiving $101 to $500 in bail (+16%), admissions receiving $501 to $1000 (+70%), and admissions receiving bail amounts of over one thousand dollars (+48%). The number of admissions who had their bail denied has also been increasing, though the percentage is small (+4%).

# SECTION II - SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE DETENTION POPULATION

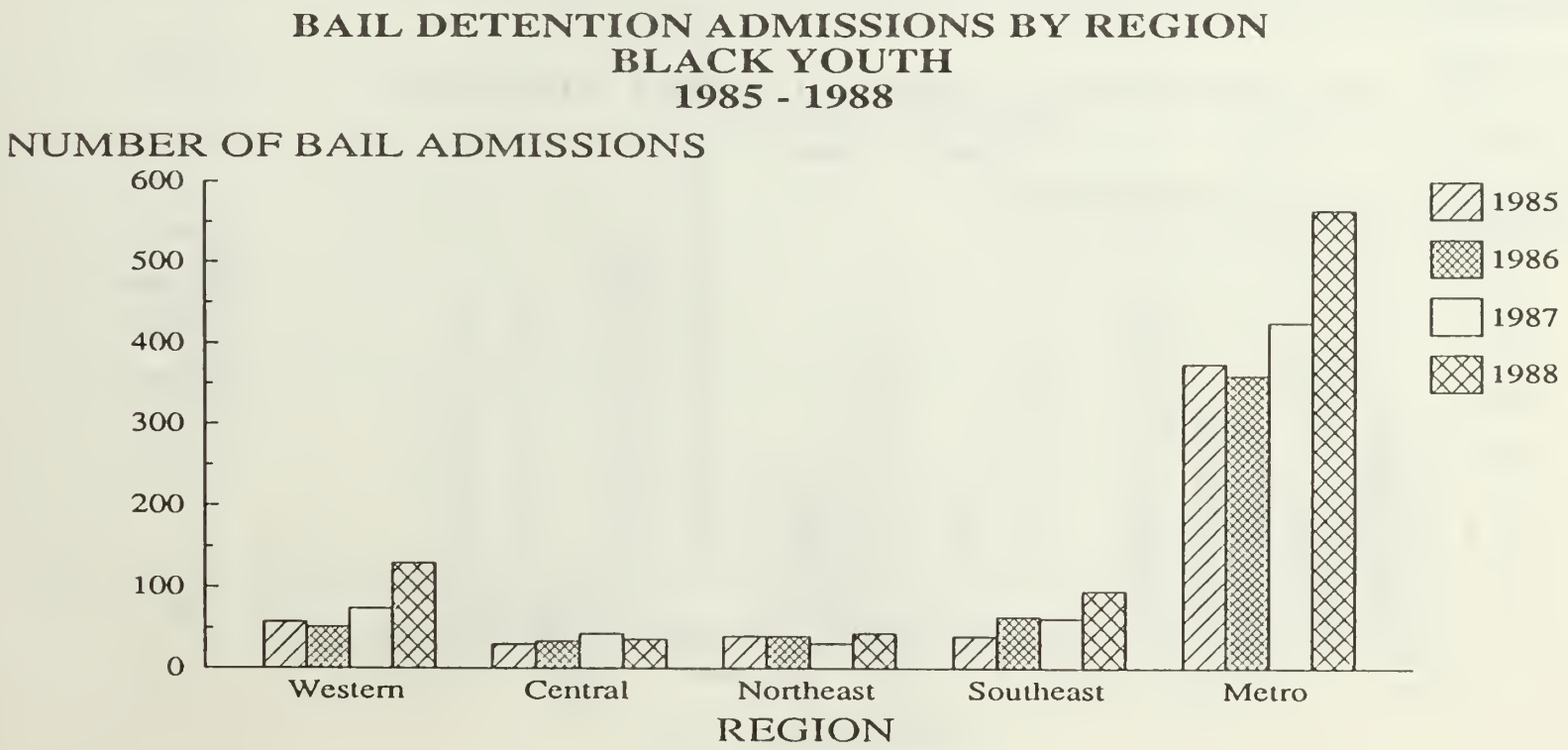
# SECTION II - SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE DETENTION POPULATION

Section I outlined the changes in the bail detention admission population from 1985 to 1988. The two most significant changes that were discussed were the changes in the racial distribution of the detention population and the dramatic increase in admissions for drug offenses. In this section, further information is provided on these two trends.

Black bail detention admissions increased by sixty-one percent from 1985 to 1988 and Hispanic bail admissions increased by seventy-eight percent during the same time period. In order to provide more information on these populations, this section describes these two populations in more detail. Finally, Section I documented a significant increase in drug offenders admitted to the detention system. This population will also be described in greater detail in this section of the report.

# I. Client Characteristics - Black Bail Detention Admissions: 1985 - 1988

REGION: The Metro Boston region has consistently had the highest proportion of black bail detention admissions compared to the other regions of the department. However, there were significant changes in the numbers of black bail admissions from other regions. The Western Region had eleven percent of the black bail admissions during 1985 but that percentage increased to fifteen percent during 1988. The actual numbers of black bail admissions was more dramatic; since 1985, the number of black bail admissions in the Western Region has more than doubled (128%), from 57 in 1985 to 130 in 1988. The Southeast Region had seven percent of the black admissions during 1985 and that changed to eleven percent during 1988. The actual numbers of black bail admissions to the Southeast Region has also more than doubled (140%), from 40 in 1985 to 96 in 1988. The Metro Boston region has also experienced an increase in their numbers of black bail admissions of fifty percent, from 375 in 1985 to 564 during 1988. The Central and Northeast regions showed increases in black bail admissions from 1985 to 1988, but the increases were not significant and the numbers were fairly constant.

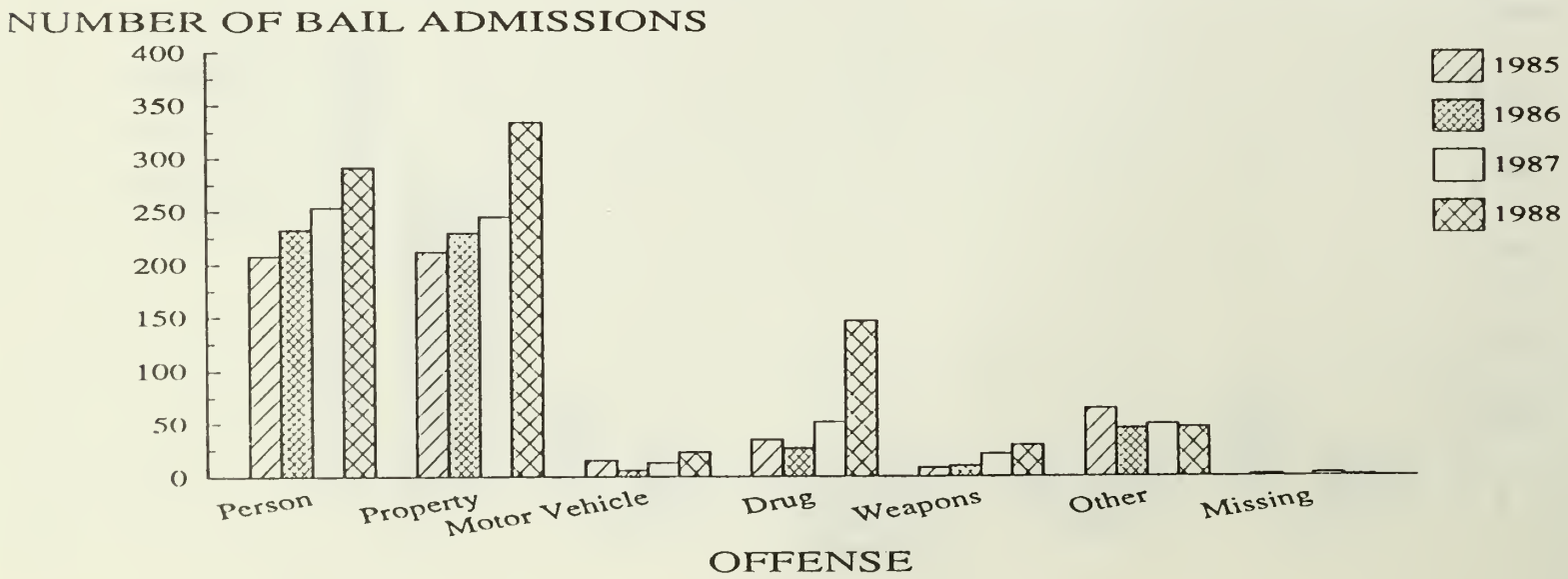


SEX: The number of male black bail admissions has increased faster than female black bail admissions. The significant fact to note is that while the male population has been increasing, the black female admissions have also increased though not as much.

AGE: All age ranges for black bail admissions showed an increase from 1985 to 1988. There were more younger black bail admissions age twelve or younger (+129%), thirteen and fourteen year olds increased by forty percent (172 vs. 241), fifteen year old admissions increased by fifty-six percent (148 vs. 231), sixteen year old admissions increased by almost seventy-five percent (172 vs. 300), and seventeen year old black admissions increased by sixty-one percent (33 vs. 53).

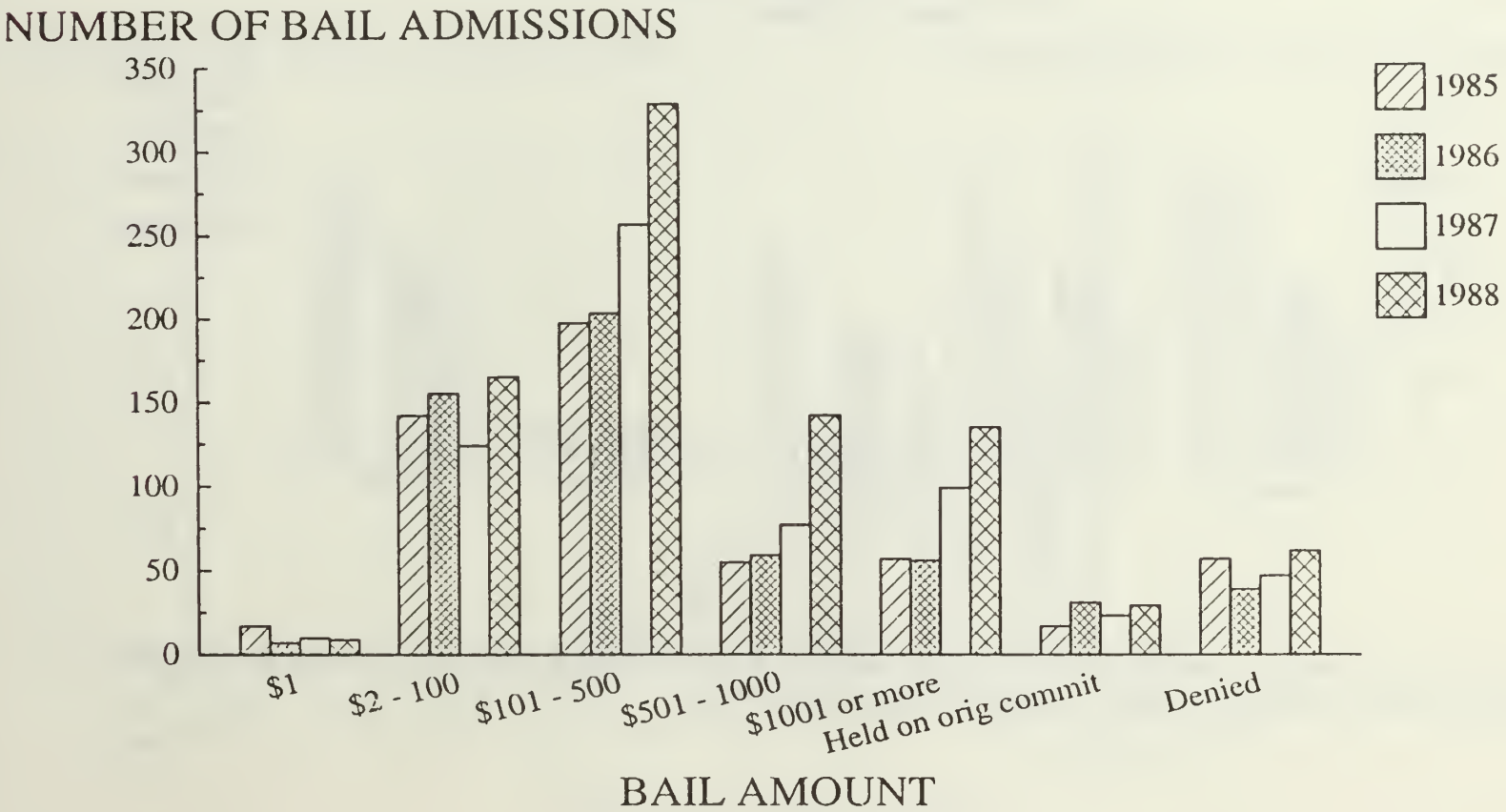
OFFENSE: The proportion of black bail admissions who were admitted for offenses against the person remained fairly constant from 1985 to 1988 at approximately thirty-five percent but there was an increase in numbers from 1985 to 1988 of forty percent. Property offenders also remained constant at thirty-eight percent. The most dramatic change occurred for black bail admissions who entered the department for drug offenses. In 1985, drug offenders represented six percent of the black bail admissions while in 1988, they represented almost seventeen percent (17%) of the admissions. In actual numbers, drug offender admissions increased from 34 in 1985 to 146 in 1988, an increase of over three hundred percent (+329%).

**BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE**
**BLACK YOUTH**
**1985 - 1988**



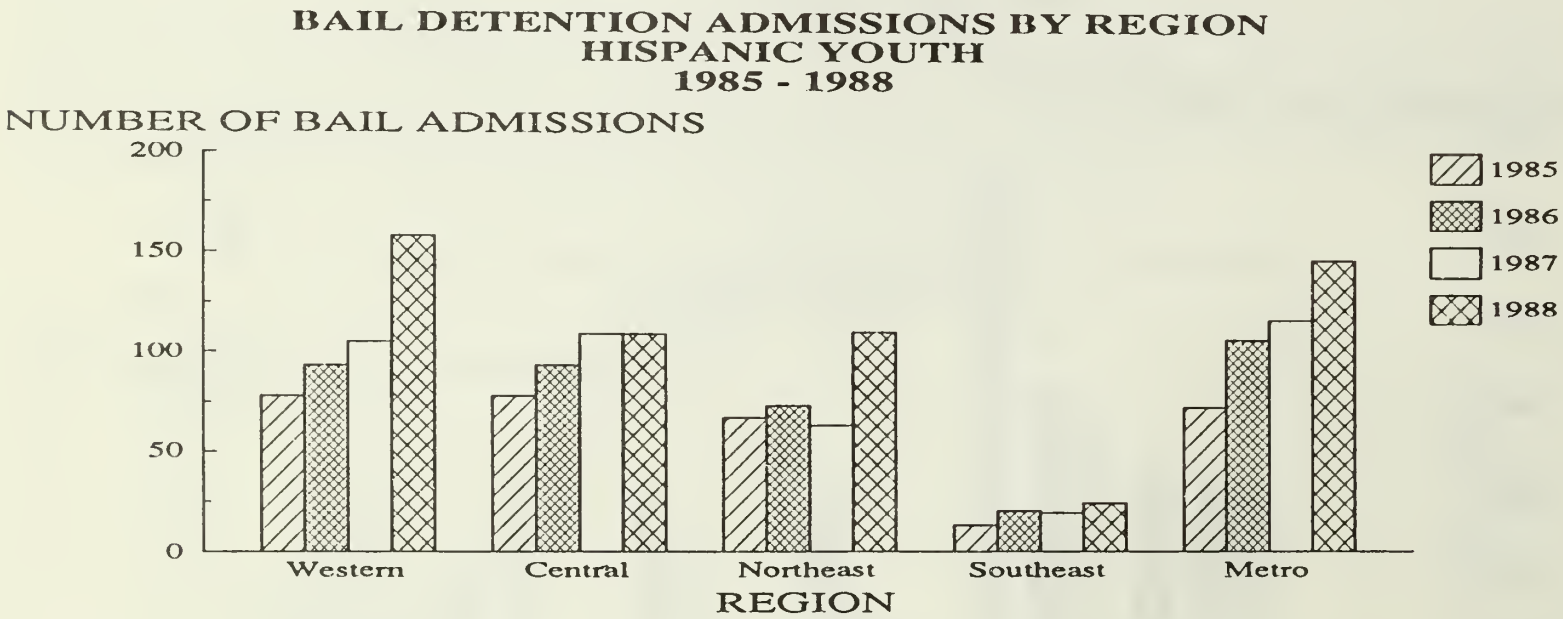
BAIL AMOUNT: With the exception of the dollar bail category, all bail categories increased from 1985 to 1988 for black bail admissions into the detention system. Admissions with a bail of less than five hundred dollars increased by forty-one percent from 1985 to 1988 (356 vs. 502) while admissions with bail amounts over five hundred dollars increased by almost one hundred and fifty percent (112 vs. 277) during this same time period.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AMOUNT OF BAIL
## BLACK YOUTH
## 1985 - 1988



# II. Client Characteristics - Hispanic Bail Detention Admissions: 1985 - 1988

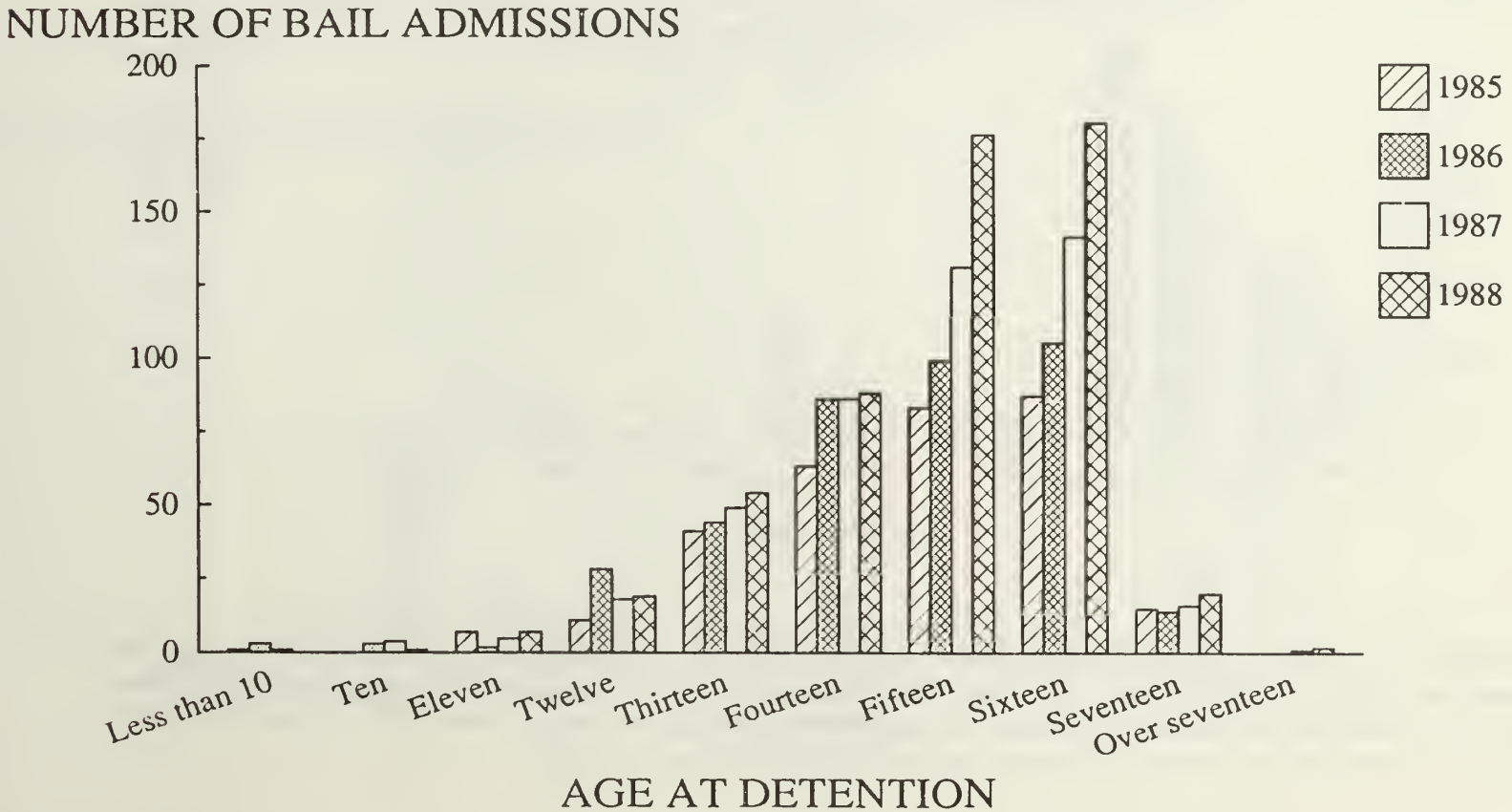
REGION: All regions experienced increases in the number of Hispanic bail admissions from 1985 to 1988. The greatest increases came in the Western Region (78 to 158) and the Metro Region (72 to 146) who more than doubled (103%) their numbers of Hispanic admissions during the four year period. The Northeast Region experienced an increase of sixty-four percent (67 to 110) and the Central Region saw an increase of forty percent (78 to 109). While the Southeast Region saw an increase, the numbers remained small (13 to 24).



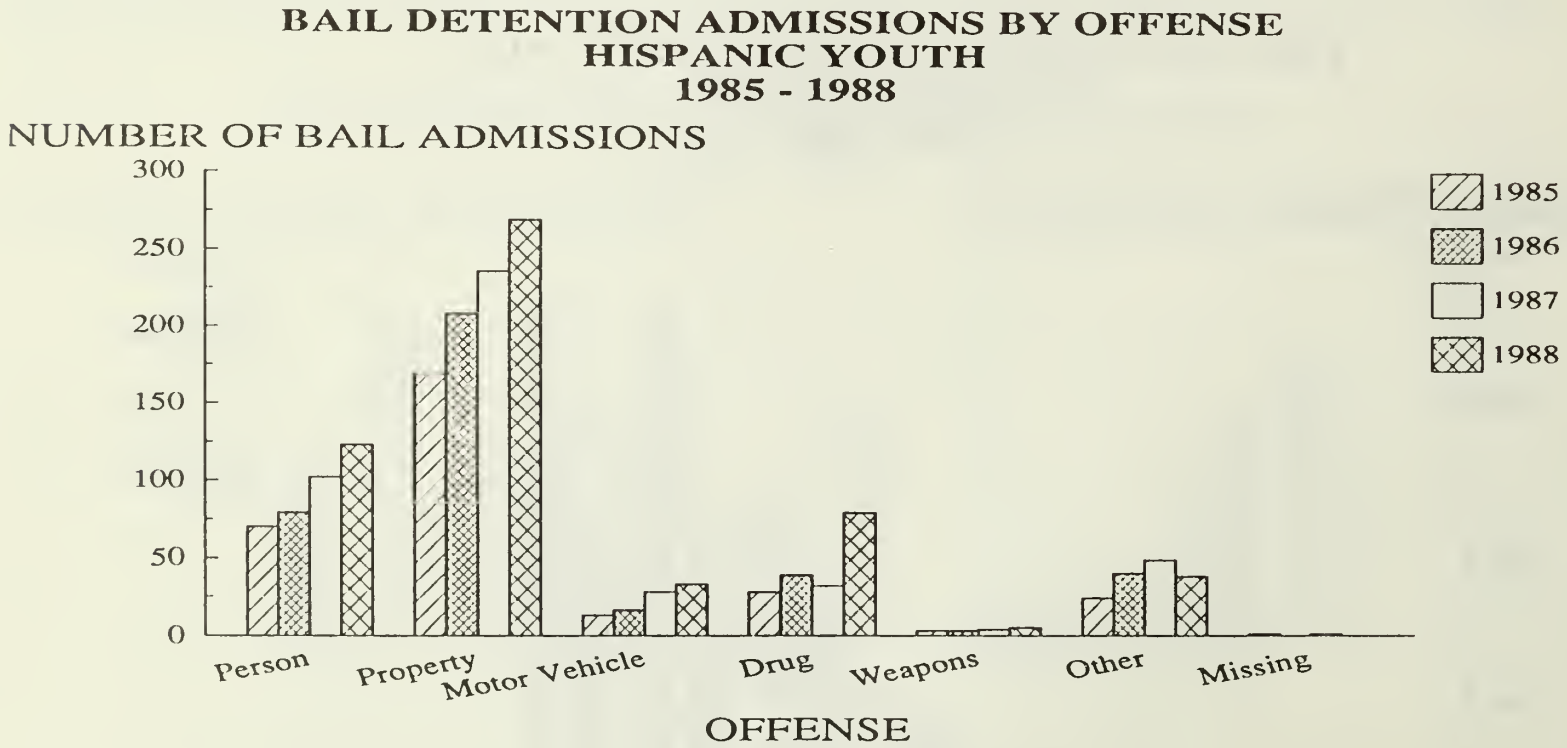

SEX: The number of male Hispanic admissions increased faster than female admissions. The males increased by eighty-four percent from 1985 to 1988 while the females increased by thirty-three percent.

**AGE:** The younger age ranges remained constant from 1985 to 1988 for Hispanic bail admissions to the detention system. The Hispanic admissions who were age thirteen increased thirty-one percent while fourteen year-olds increased by 40%. The largest increases came in the fifteen year olds (+112%) who increased from 83 to 176 and the sixteen year olds (+107%) who increased from 87 to 180.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AGE
## HISPANIC YOUTH
## 1985 - 1988



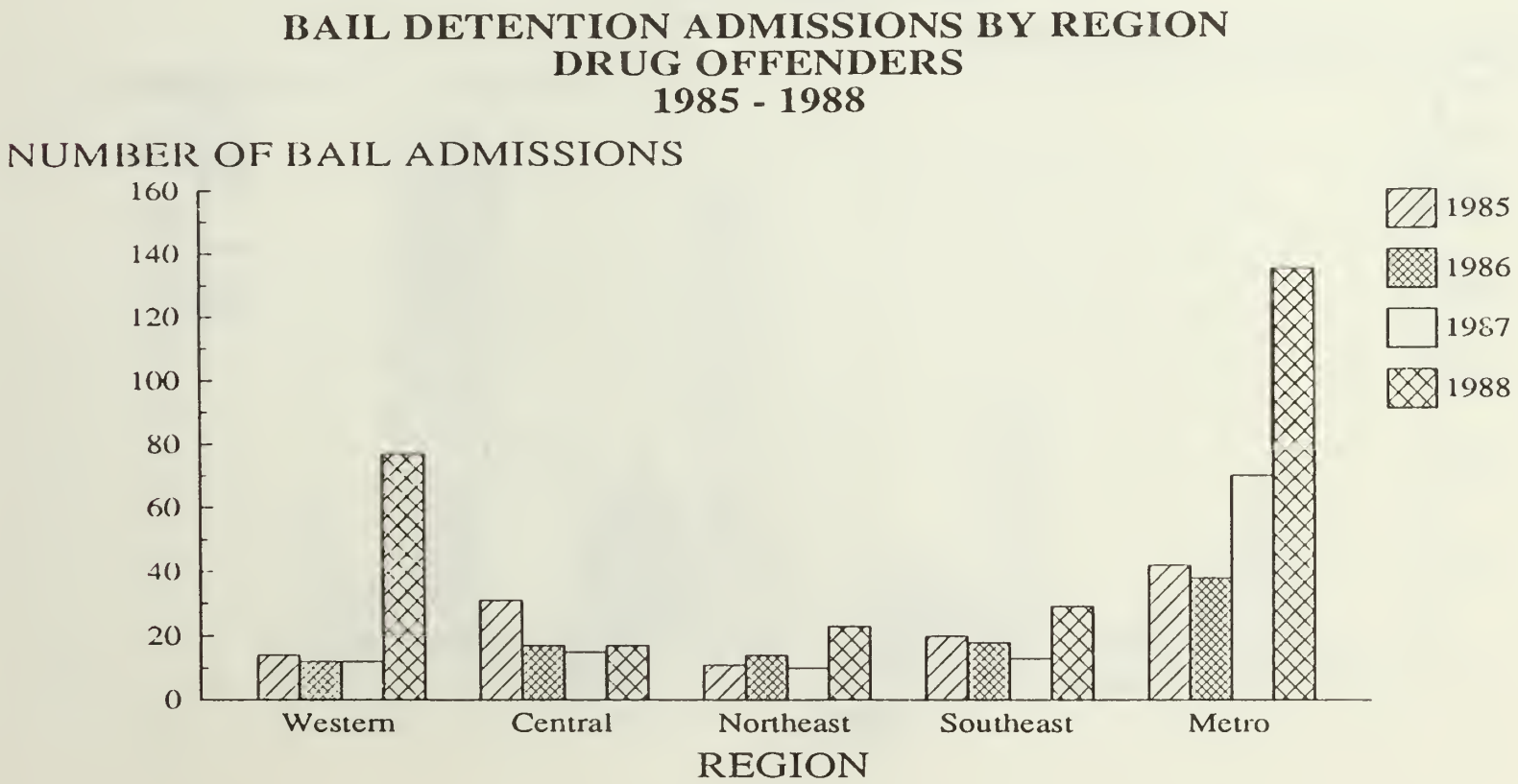
OFFENSE: The proportion of Hispanic bail admissions who were admitted for offenses against the person remained fairly constant from 1985 to 1988 at approximately twenty-two percent but there was an increase in numbers during that time period of seventy-six percent (70 to 123). Property offenders averaged about fifty-three percent of the Hispanic bail admissions but their numbers also increased from 1985 to 1988 by almost sixty percent (169 to 269). The largest increase occurred for admissions for drug offenses; drug offender admissions increased from 28 in 1985 to 79 in 1988, an increase of almost two hundred percent (+182%).



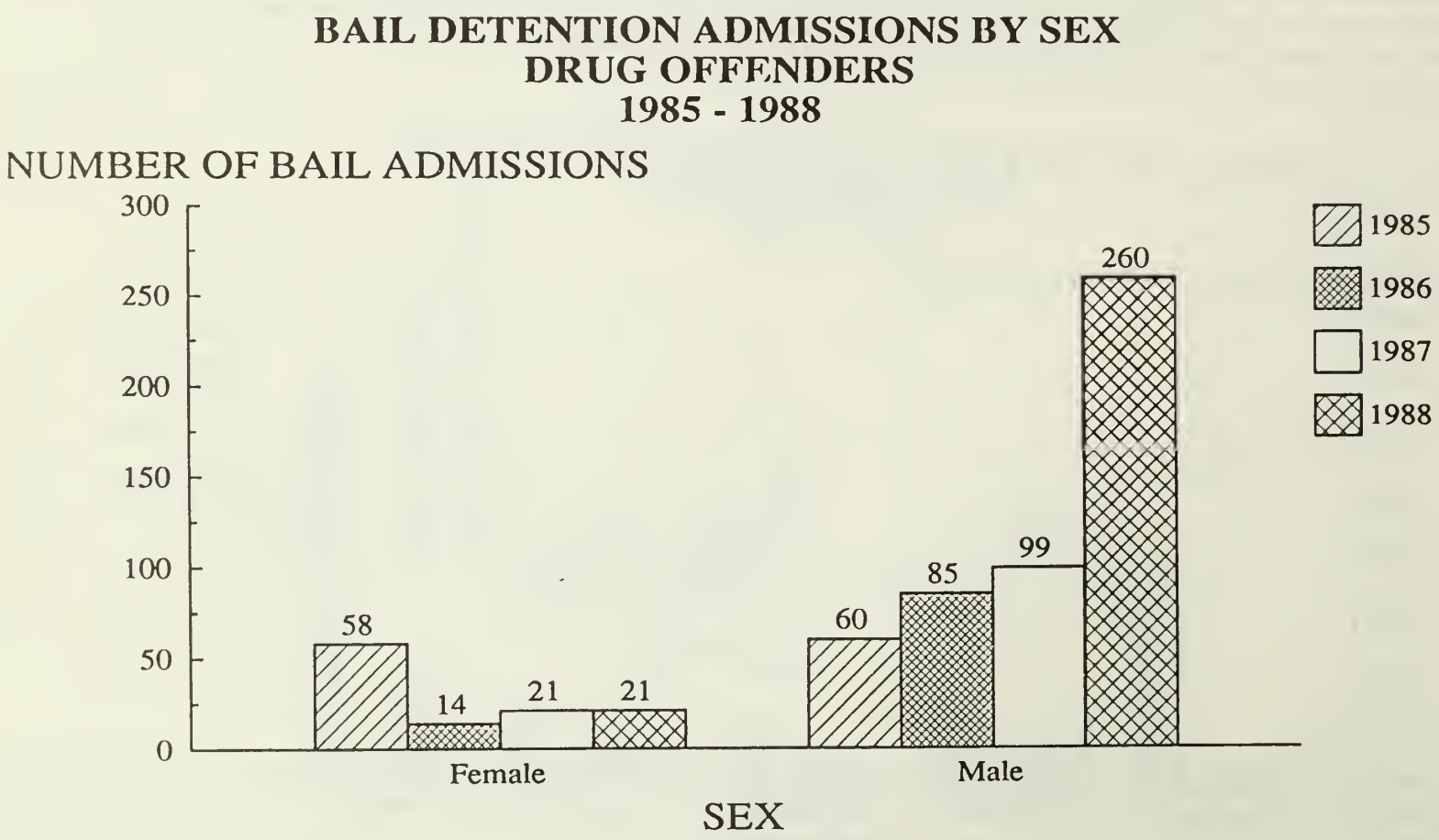

BAIL AMOUNT: With the exception of the dollar bail category, all categories of bail admissions increased for Hispanic bail admissions from 1985 to 1988. The majority of Hispanic bail admissions received bail amounts of less than five hundred dollars during the time period, but the numbers of youth in this category increased by sixty percent from 207 in 1985 to 331 in 1988. Admissions who received a bail amount larger than five hundred dollars increased by 172%.

# III. Client Characteristics - Drug Offender Bail Admissions: 1985 - 1988

REGION: The Metro Boston region has consistently had the highest proportion of bail admissions for drug offenses during the four year time period. For 1988, the Metro Region had almost fifty percent of the bail detention admissions for drug offenses. However, dramatic changes were in evidence in the Central Region and the Western Region. The proportion of drug offenders from the Western Region increased from twelve percent in 1985 to twenty-seven percent in 1988. In addition, the proportion of drug offenders from the Central Region decreased from twenty-six percent in 1985 to six percent in 1988. The largest increase in numbers of drug offenders came in the Western Region (+450%) with an increase from 14 to 77 during the four years. The Metro Region increase was from 42 to 135, an increase of over two hundred percent (+221%).

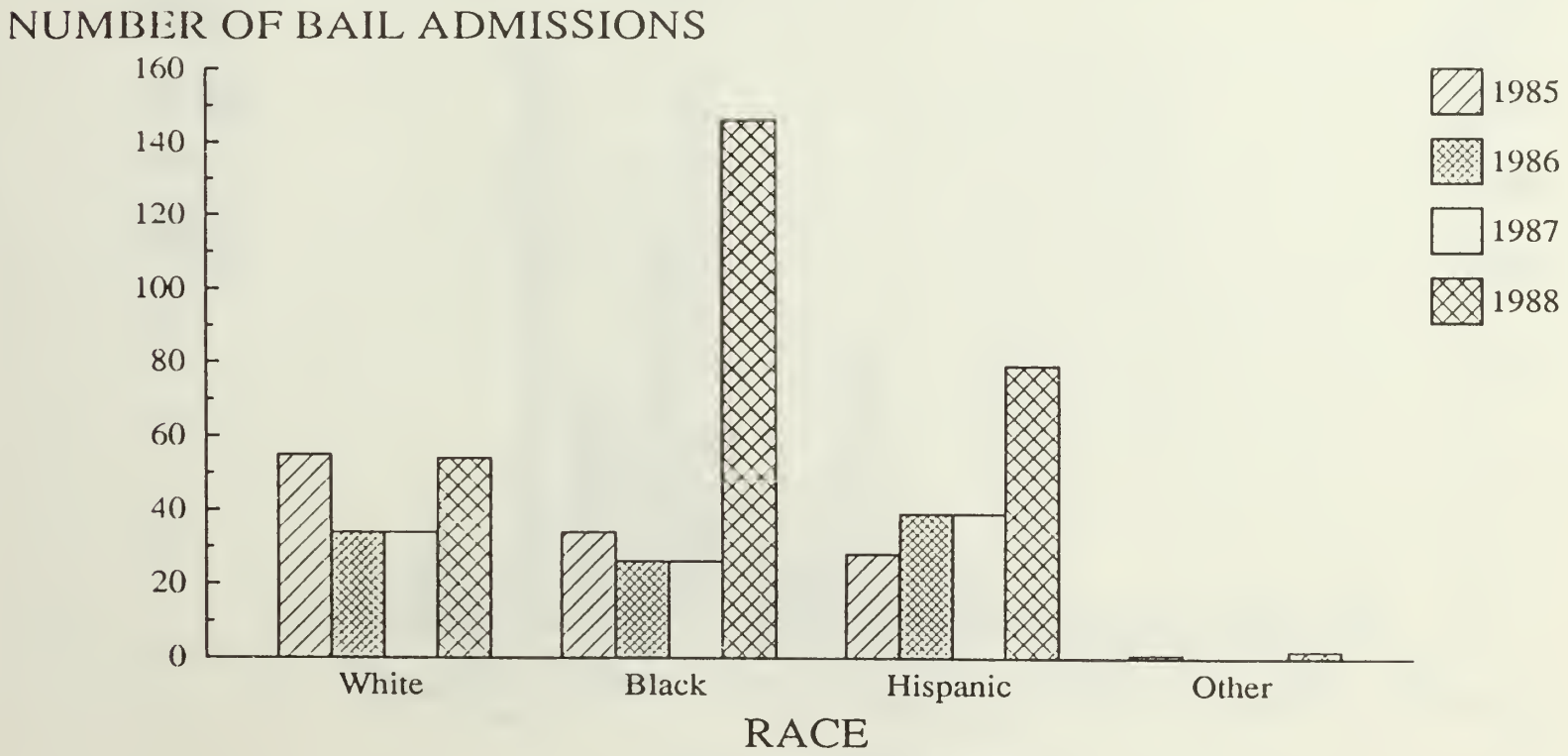


SEX: There has been a dramatic change in the proportion of males and females in the bail admission population for drug offenses from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, females made up almost half of the bail detention admissions for drug offenses. However, this changed dramatically in 1988 when females made up only seven percent of the bail drug offenders admitted into the detention system. Females decreased by sixty-four percent (from 58 to 21) while males increased by over three hundred percent (from 60 to 260).



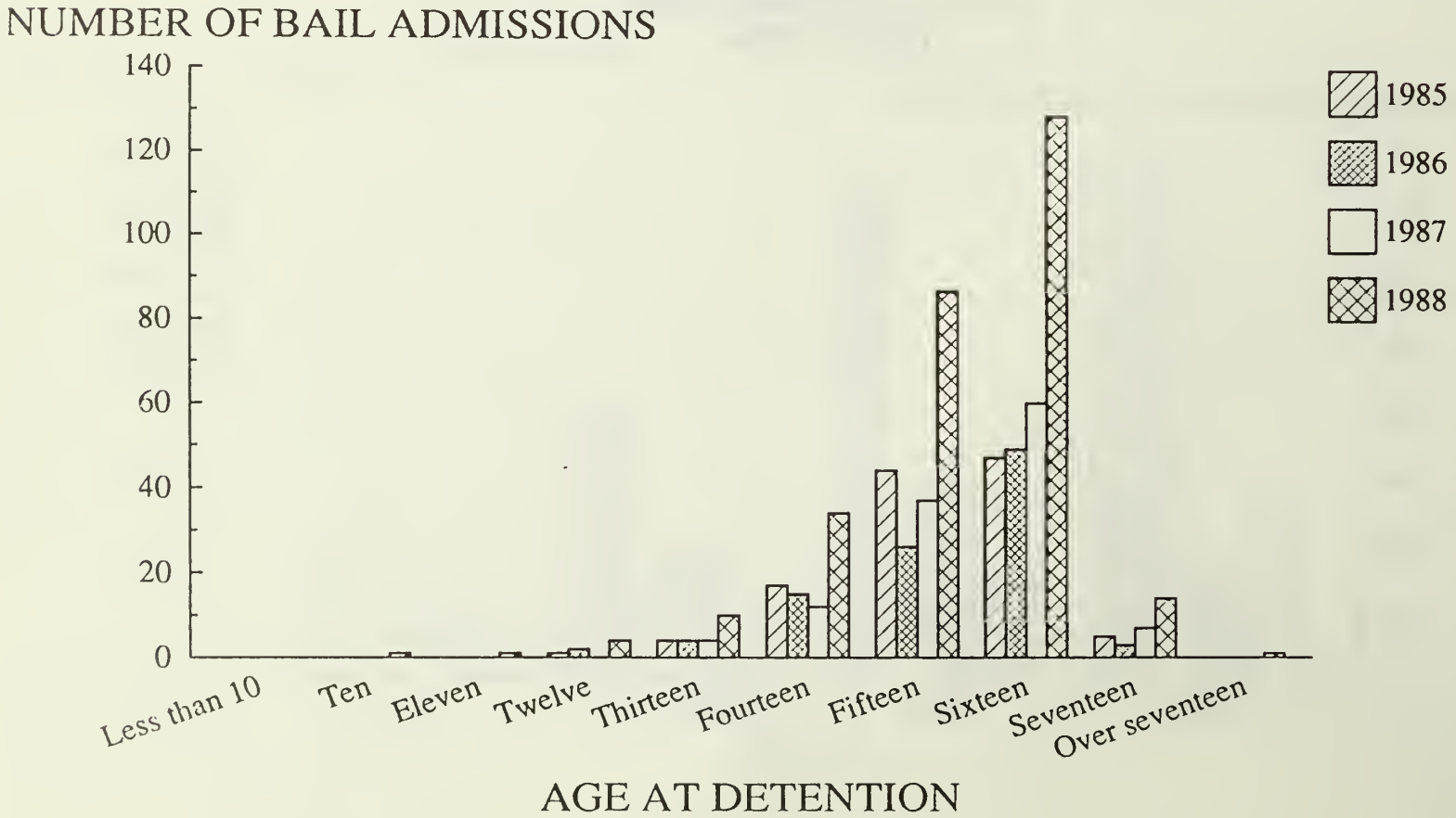
RACE: The racial distribution of the bail admissions for drug offenses has also changed dramatically from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, white youth represented almost half (47%) of the bail admissions for drug offenses. However, the proportion of white youth admitted for drug offenses in 1988 decreased to only nineteen percent. In 1988, more than half (52%) of the bail admissions for drug offenses were black compared to only twenty-nine percent in 1985. The Hispanic admissions for drug offenses also increased from 24% in 1985 to 28% in 1988. Black bail admissions for drug offenses increased over three hundred percent (+329%) from 1985 to 1988 and Hispanic admissions increased by almost two hundred percent (+182%).

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
## DRUG OFFENDERS
## 1985 - 1988



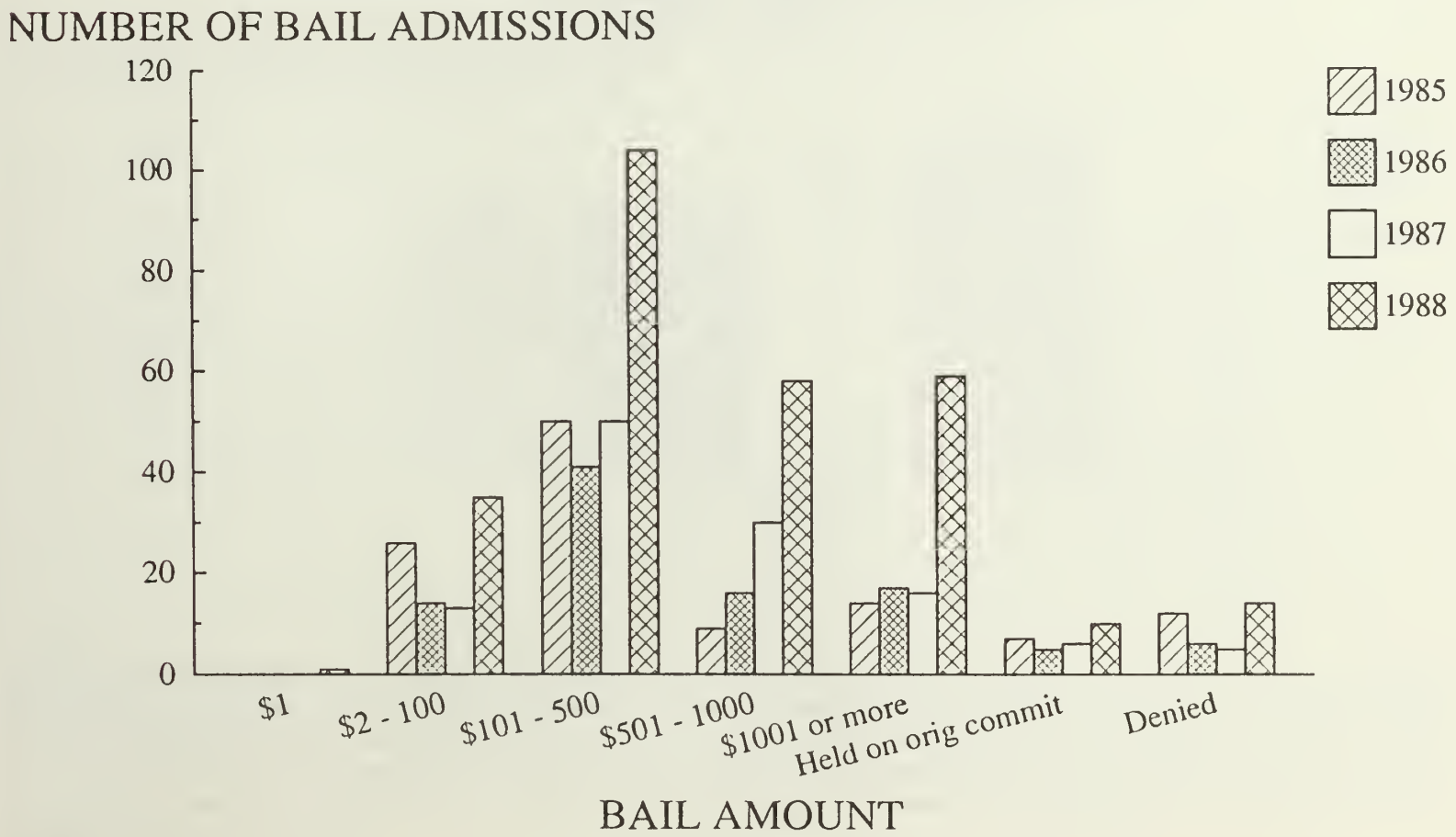
AGE: Almost half (46%) of the bail detention admissions for drug offenses in 1988 were age sixteen upon admission to the detention system. This age group increased almost two hundred percent (+174%) from 1985. Fifteen year old admissions increased by almost one hundred percent (+98%) from 44 to 87 admissions from 1985 to 1988.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AGE
## DRUG OFFENDERS
## 1985 - 1988



BAIL AMOUNT: All bail amount categories increased from 1985 to 1988, with the largest increase coming in the $501 to $1000 bail category (+544%) and the over one thousand category (+321%).

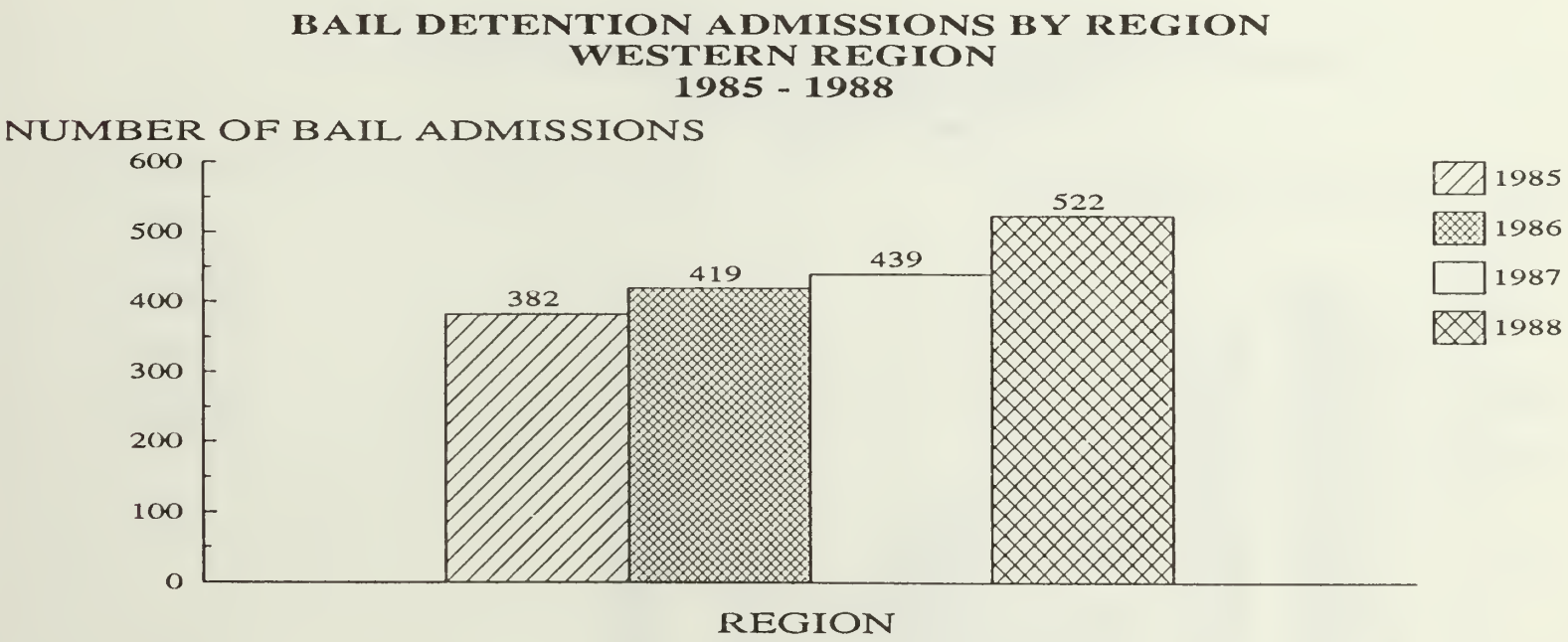
## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AMOUNT OF BAIL
## DRUG OFFENDERS
## 1985 - 1988



# SECTION III - REGIONAL DESCRIPTIONS

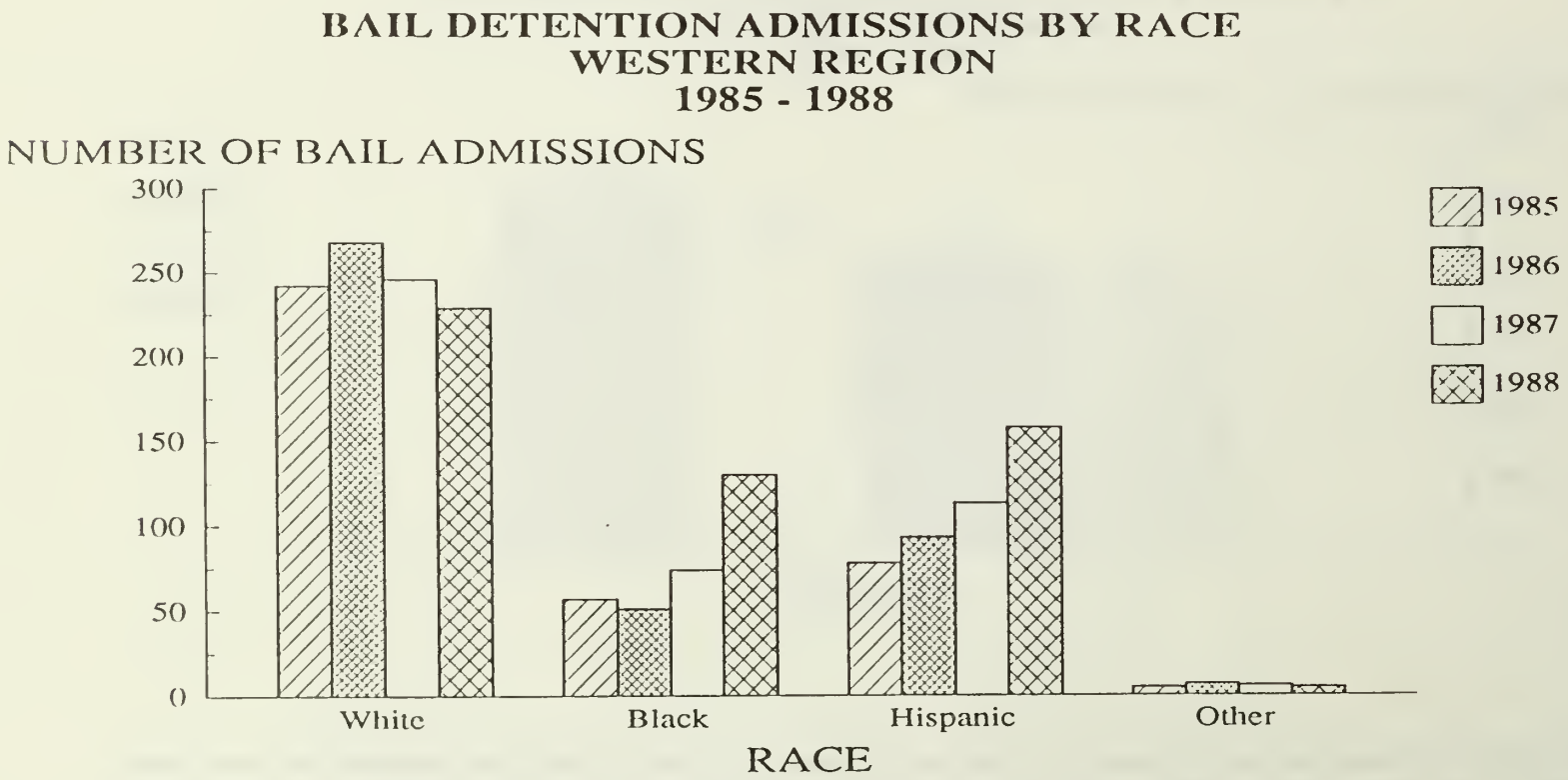
# WESTERN REGION

The number of bail detention admissions from the Western Region has shown a constant increase over the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The admissions from Western Region have totaled 382 during 1985, 419 during 1986, 439 during 1987, and 522 during 1988. From 1985 to 1988, the admissions from the Western Region increased by almost forty percent (37%). Compared to 1987, the admissions from this region increased by almost twenty percent (19%).

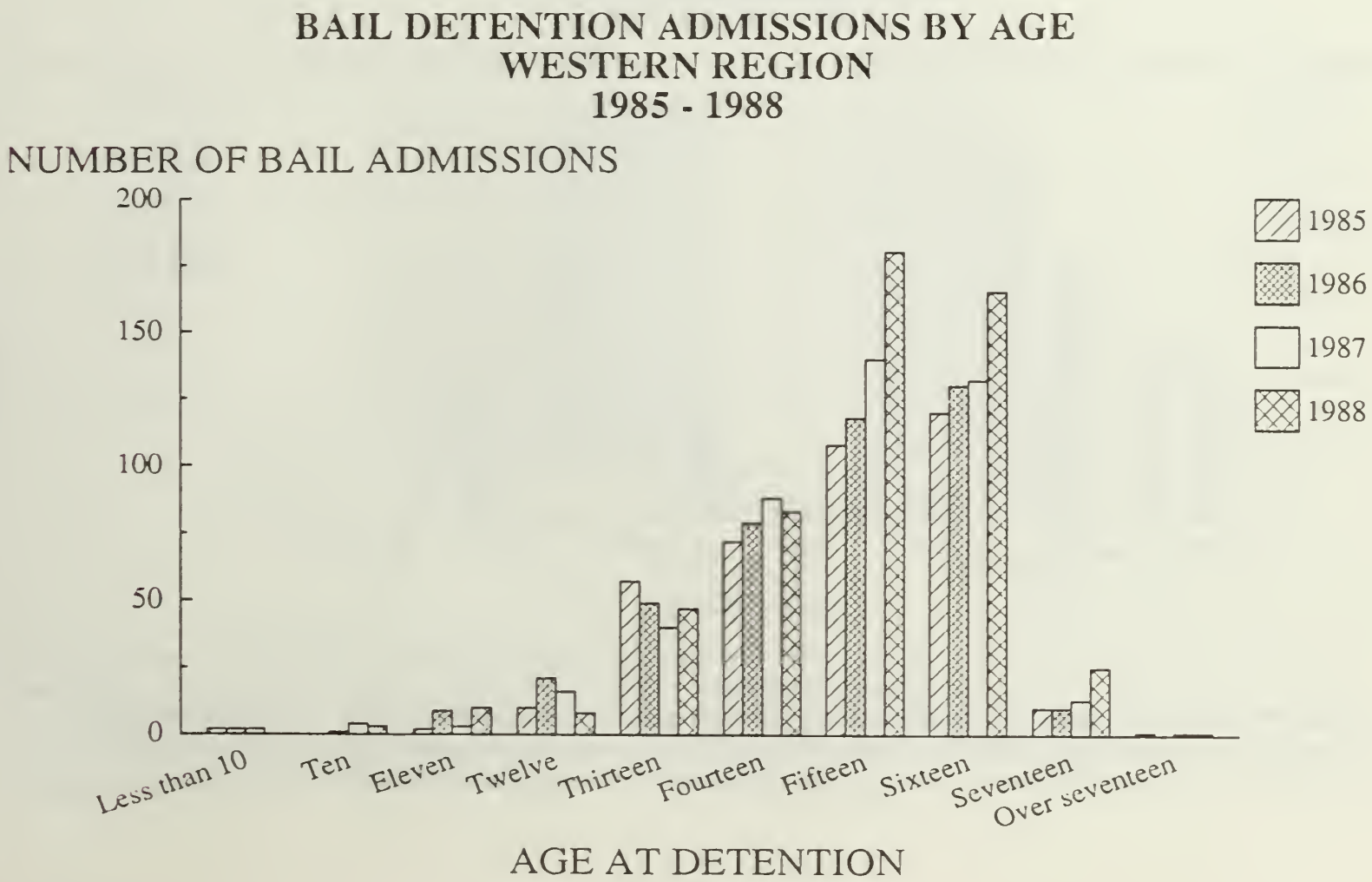



**SEX:** The Western Region has been experienced a great deal of fluctuation in the bail admission population who were female from 1985 to 1988. From 1985 to 1986, the number of female bail admissions decreased by eight percent; from 1986 to 1987 there was an increase of thirty-four percent in the number of female bail admissions; and from 1987 to 1988 there was a decrease of twenty percent. The male population has been much more stable, showing a decrease from 1986 to 1987 but increasing in each of the other years. From 1987 to 1988, there was an increase of thirty-two percent in the number of bail admissions from the Western Region who were male.

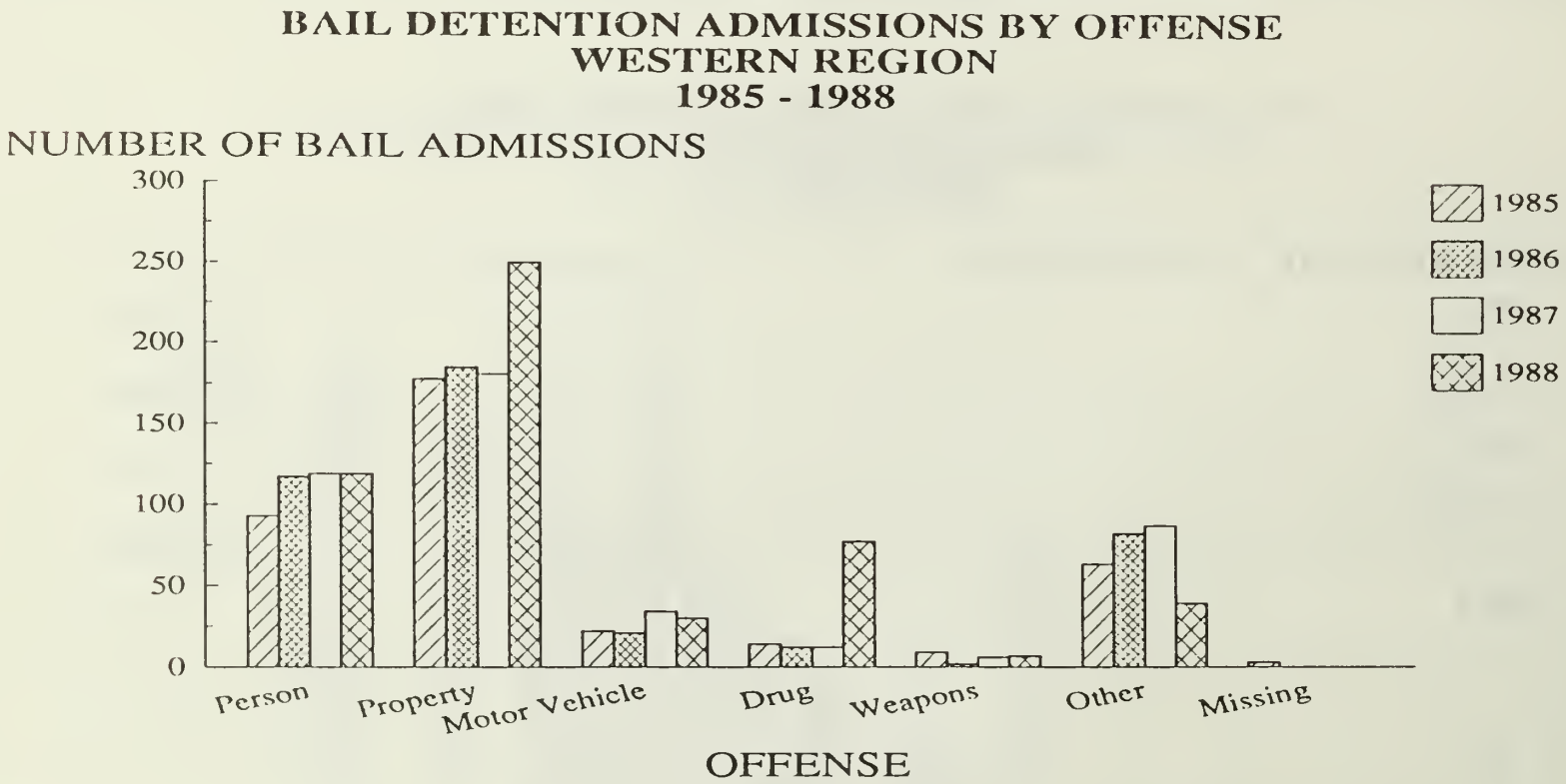
RACE: The racial proportion of bail admissions for the Western Region models that of the agency as a whole. There was an increase in the number of bail admission who were white in the region from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 the number of white admissions has been decreasing. The number of black admissions decreased slightly from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 the number of black bail admissions have been increasing; from 1987 to 1988 there was a seventy-six percent increase in the number of bail admissions who were black. The Hispanic admissions have been steadily increasing over the four years; from 1987 to 1988 there was a forty percent increase in the number of Hispanic bail admissions from the previous year.



**AGE:** There have been fluctuations in the bail admissions for the Western Region who are at the youngest ages (thirteen years or younger). No clear trend exists for these ages. There has been an increasing number of youth who were fifteen years of age or older at the time of their admission into the detention system from 1985 to 1988. Compared to 1987 there was a twenty-nine percent increase in the fifteen year olds, a twenty-five percent increase in the sixteen year olds, and almost a one hundred percent increase in the seventeen year olds admitted into the detention system from the Western Region.



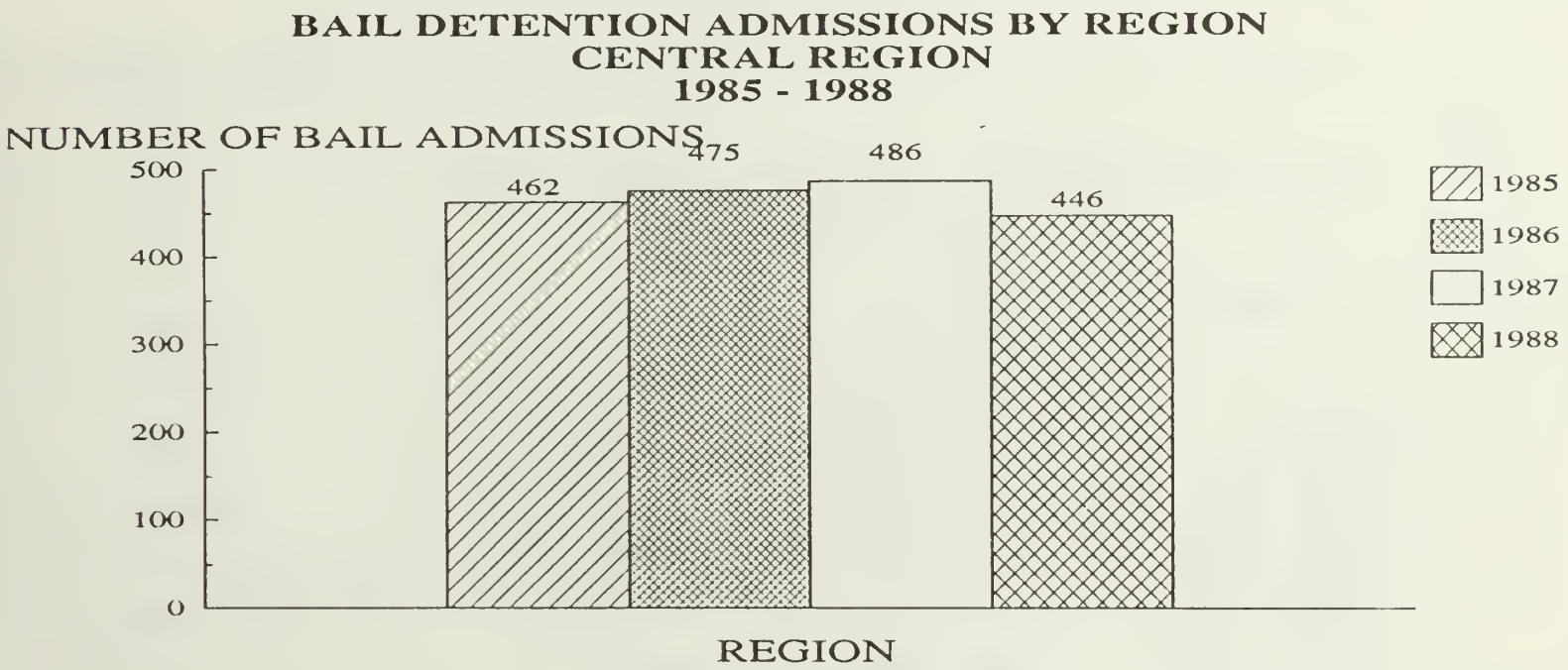
OFFENSE: The numbers of bail admissions from the Western Region who were admitted for crimes against the person increased substantially from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 the numbers of admissions have been steady. For property offenses, there had been an almost constant number of offenders from 1985 to 1987; however, there was a substantial increase from 1987 to 1988 of thirty-eight percent in bail admissions for crimes against property. There had been a steady number of admissions for drug offenses from 1985 to 1987, but there was a significant increase from 1987 to 1988 of over five hundred percent (65 admissions).




BAIL AMOUNT: The Western Region has experienced the greatest increase in bail amount from 1985 to 1988 in the admissions with a bail amount of between $501 and $1000 (+137%). The admissions who received a bail amount of more than one thousand dollars has doubled since 1985 while there have not been any admissions receiving a dollar bail since 1986.

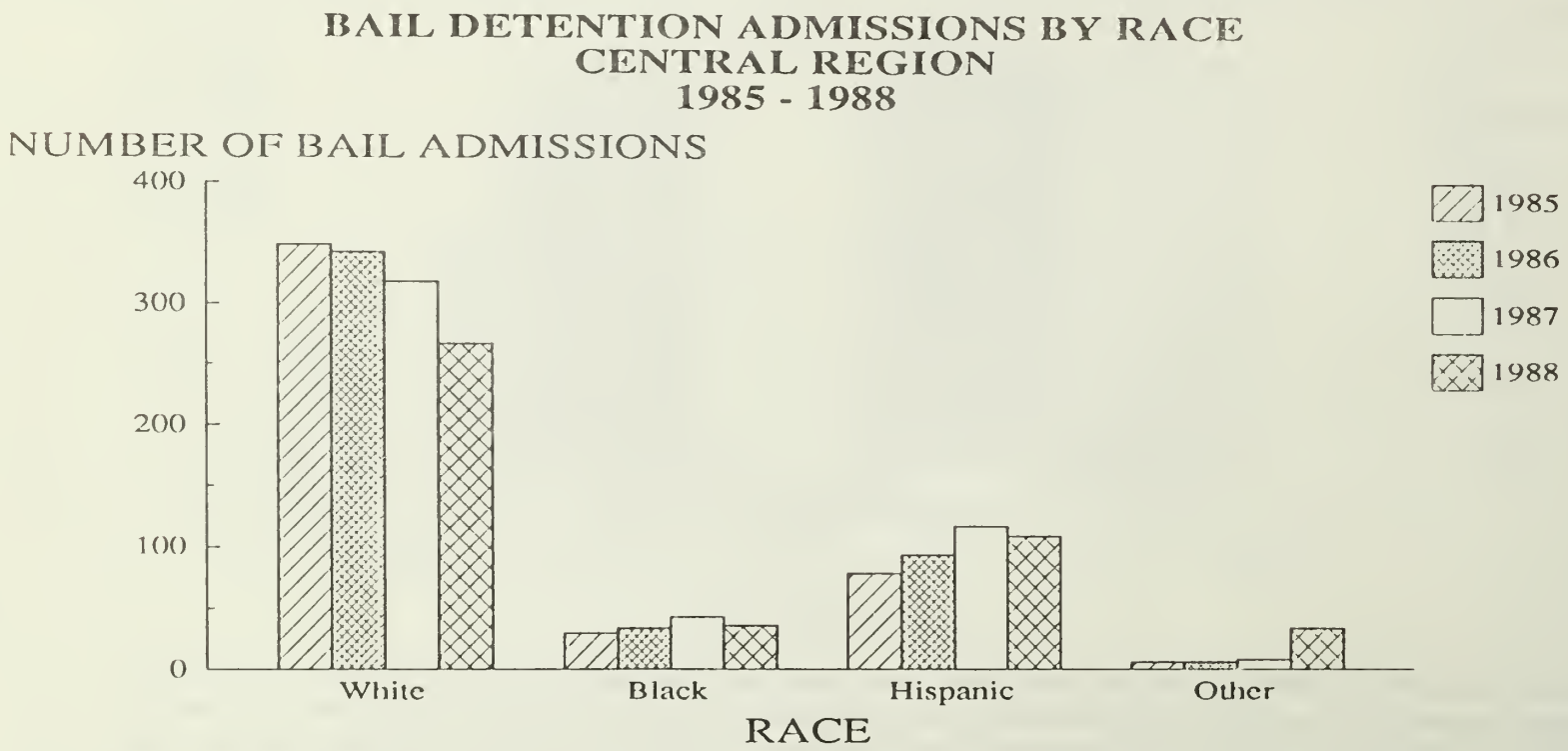
# CENTRAL REGION

The number of bail detention admissions from the Central Region increased consistently from 1985 to 1987, but decreased from 1987 to 1988. The 1988 total of 466 bail admissions was the lowest in the four year period from 1985 to 1988.

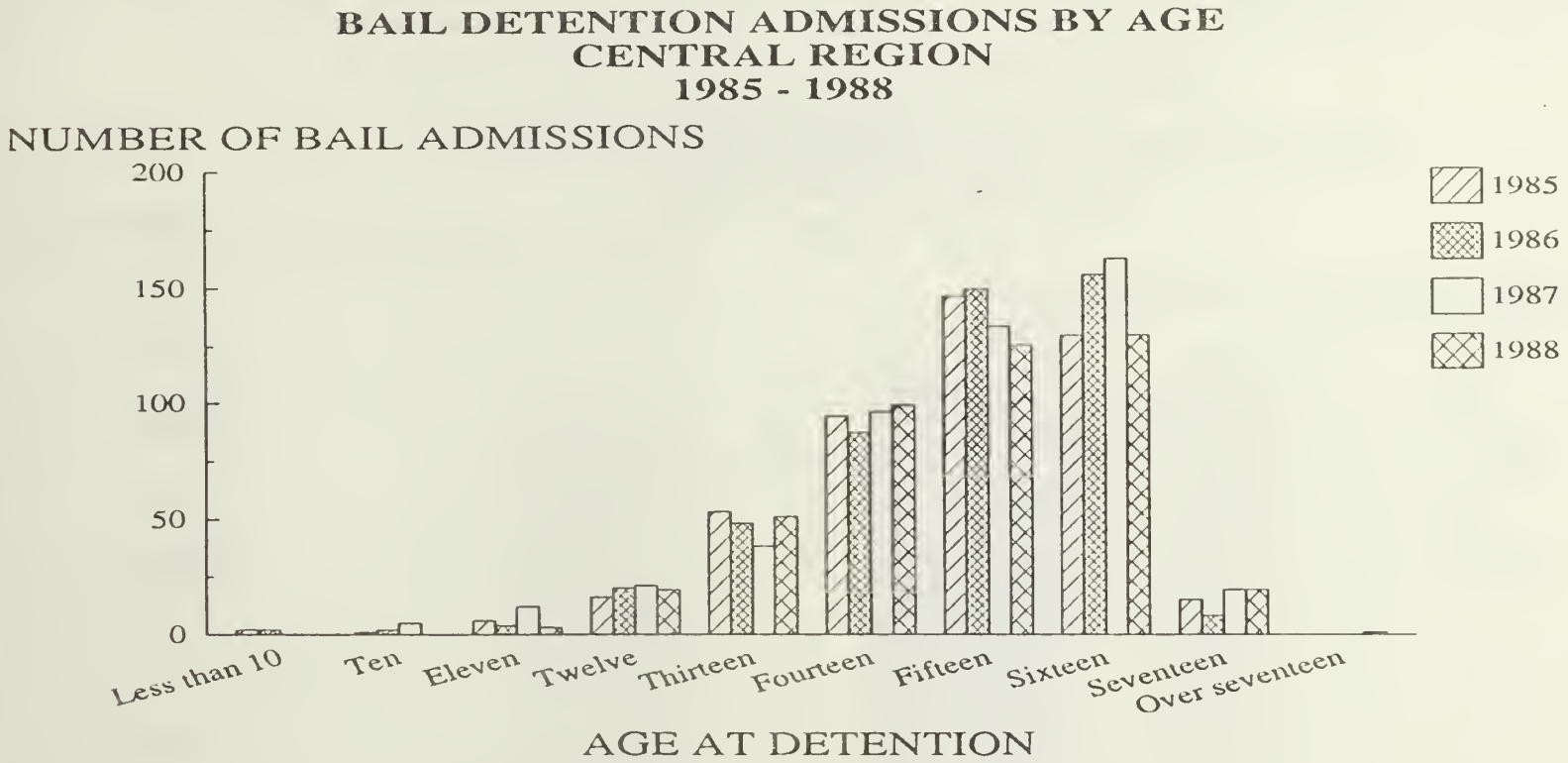



SEX: The number of bail admissions from the Central Region who were female increased from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 has been steadily decreasing. From 1986 to 1988, there has been a decrease of twenty-four percent in the number of female bail admissions to the detention system. For males, the number remained constant from 1985 to 1986, but has been increasing since 1986. However, the number of male bail admissions to the Central Region during 1988 was almost equal to the number of males admitted during 1985 (349 vs. 347 respectively).

RACE: The number of bail admissions to the Central Region who have been white has been decreasing steadily since 1985. From 1985 to 1988, there has been a twenty-three percent decrease in the number of bail admissions to the region who were white. There has only been a slight change in the number of black bail admissions to the Central Region from 1985 to 1988 (6 more admissions). The largest increases have come in the Hispanic and Asian categories. For Hispanics, there has been an increase of forty percent in the number of bail admissions from 1985 to 1988; for Asians, the increase from 1987 to 1988 has been 450%, though the number is still small (N = 22).



**AGE**: There have been fluctuations in the age categories of bail admissions in the Central Region from 1985 to 1988 but a long term trend is not clear. Compared to 1987, there were increases in the bail admissions who were thirteen (34%) and fourteen (3%) while there were decreases in admissions who were twelve years of age or younger (42%), fifteen (6%), and sixteen (20%).

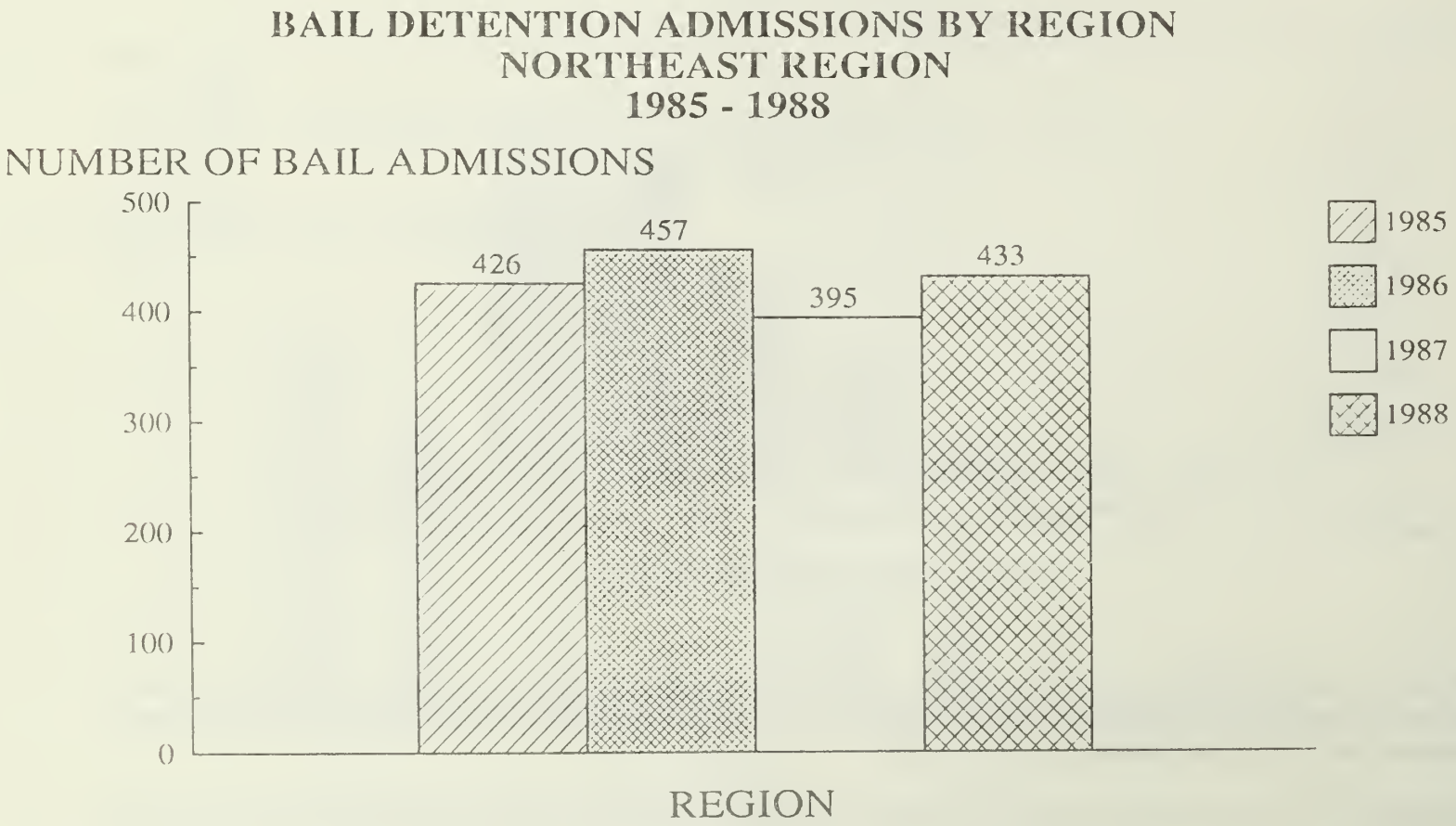



**OFFENSE**: There are also no clear trends in the offense category for bail admissions to the Central Region. The offenses against the person and against property held fairly steady from 1985 to 1988. There were decreases in motor vehicle and drug offenses while slight increases in weapons and public order offenses.

**BAIL AMOUNT**: The Central Region has experienced decreases in all of the bail categories since 1985, though the actual numbers have been fairly constant. The only category that has increased is the number of admissions who were denied bail which has increased by almost two hundred percent since 1985.

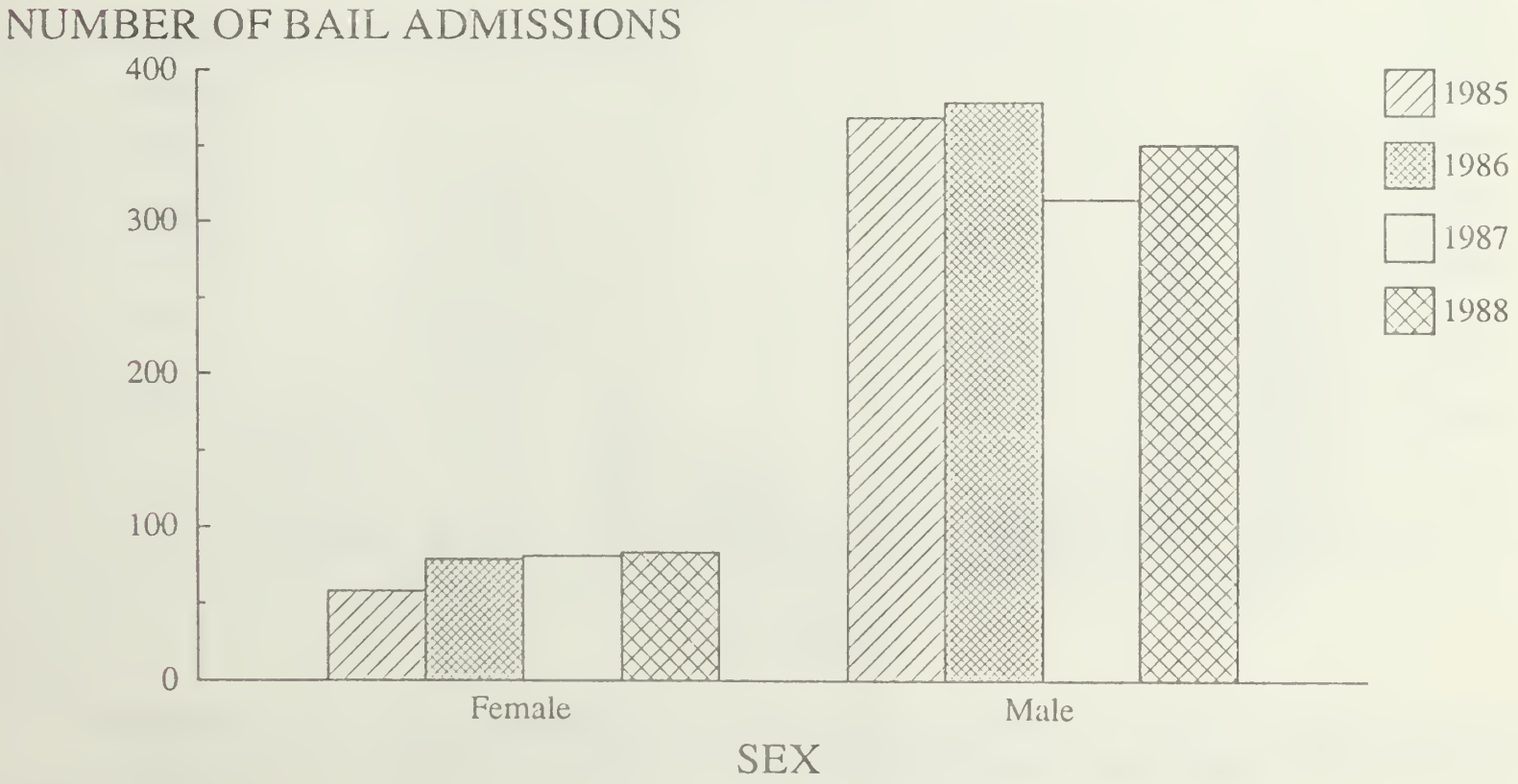
# NORTHEAST REGION

The Northeast Region has experienced fluctuations in the number of bail detention admissions during the four year period from 1985 to 1988. Admissions increased from 1985 to 1986, decreased from 1986 to 1987, and finally increased from 1987 to 1988. The largest number of bail admissions during the four year period was in 1986 with 457 bail admissions.



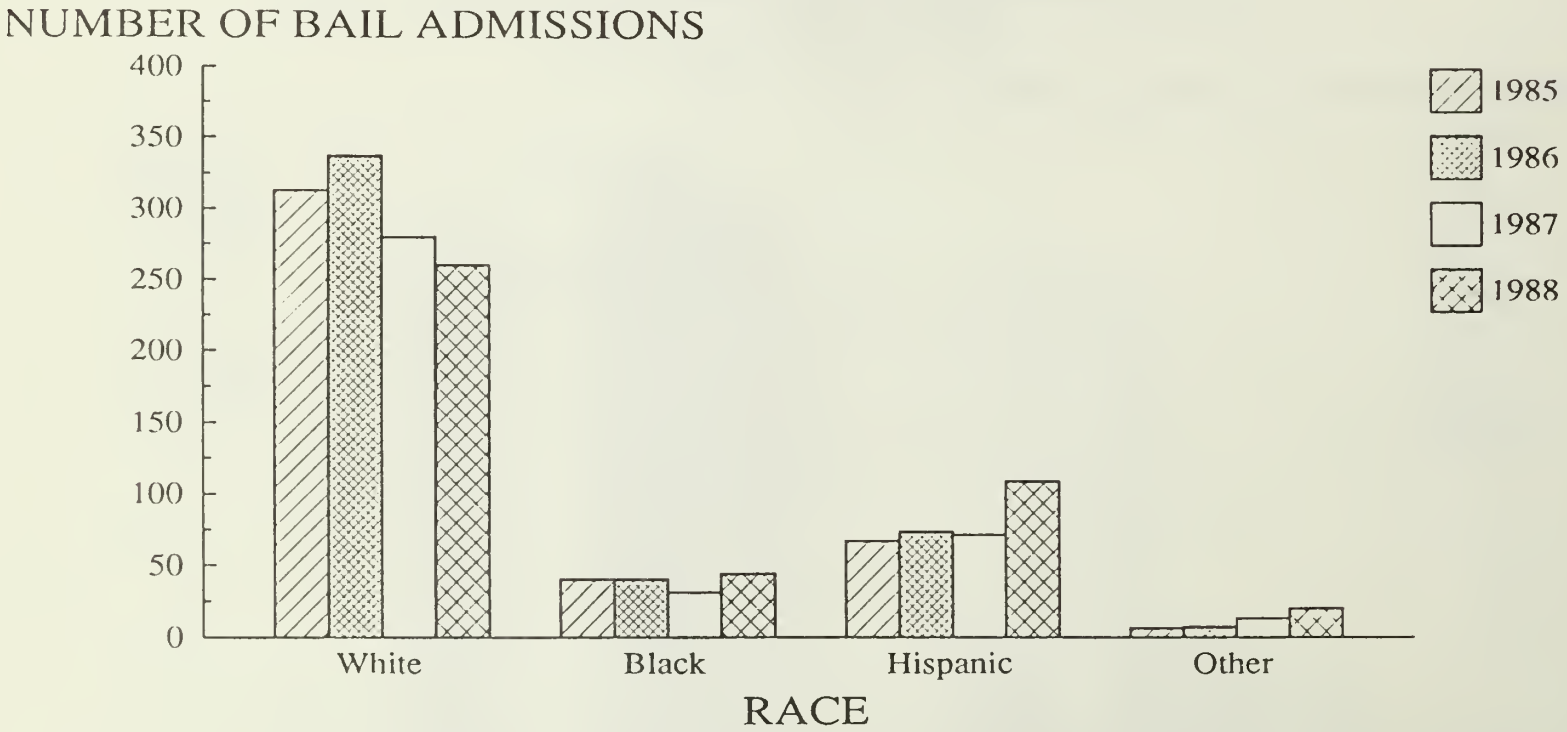
**SEX**: The Northeast Region has experienced increases in the number of female bail admissions. From 1985 to 1988, the region has seen an increase of forty-three percent. The number of male bail admissions increased from 1985 to 1986, but decreased by seventeen percent from 1986 to 1987. While the number increased from 1987 to 1988, the number of male bail admissions has decreased from 1985 to 1988 by five percent.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY SEX
## NORTHEAST REGION
## 1985 - 1988



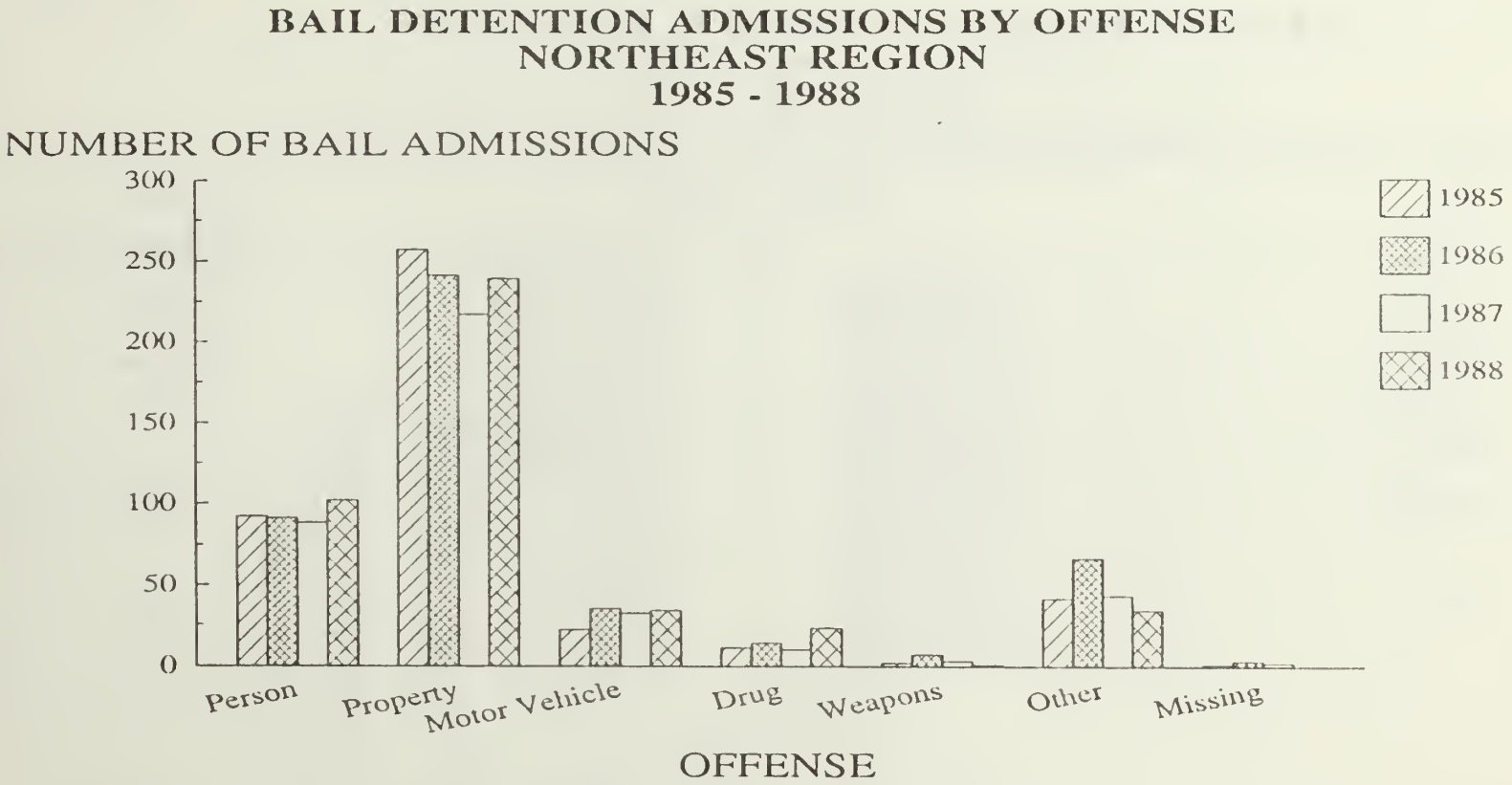
RACE: The number of white bail admissions has been decreasing steadily since 1985. The proportion of the bail admissions who were white has decreased from 73% in 1985 to 60% in 1988. At the same time that this has occurred, the number of black admissions have increased slightly (10%) and the number of Hispanic admissions has increased by sixty-three percent.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
## NORTHEAST REGION
## 1985 - 1988




AGE: The Northeast Region has experienced variations in the age categories of bail admissions in each of the years from 1985 to 1988. Compared to 1985, there have been increases in four age categories, though the actual numbers have been relatively small.

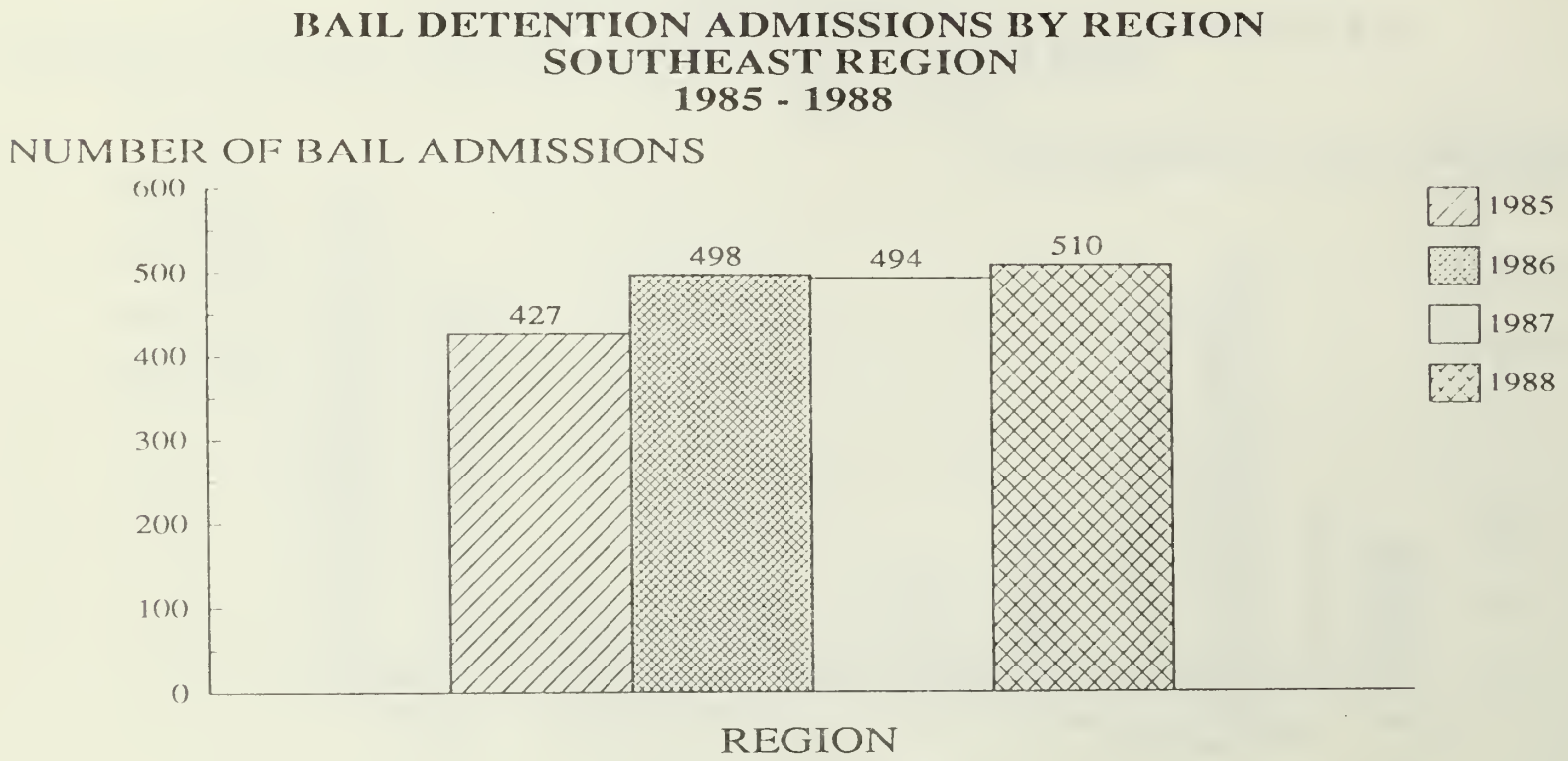
**OFFENSE**: The number of bail admissions in the Northeast Region for offenses against the person remained fairly constant from 1985 to 1987, but there was a sixteen percent increase in admissions for offenses against the person from 1987 to 1988. The number of admissions for motor vehicle offenses increased from 1985 to 1986, but have remained steady since that time. Property offenders admitted into the detention system from the Northeast Region have decreased slightly since 1985 while the bail admissions held for drug offenses have doubled.




**BAIL AMOUNT**: The Northeast Region saw decreases in the lower bail amounts from 1985 to 1988 with a twenty percent decrease for admissions who received a bail amount of less than one hundred dollars. Since 1985, there has been an increase of fourteen percent in the admissions who received a bail amount of between $101 and $1000. The number of admissions who were denied bail increased by almost twenty admissions.

# SOUTHEAST REGION

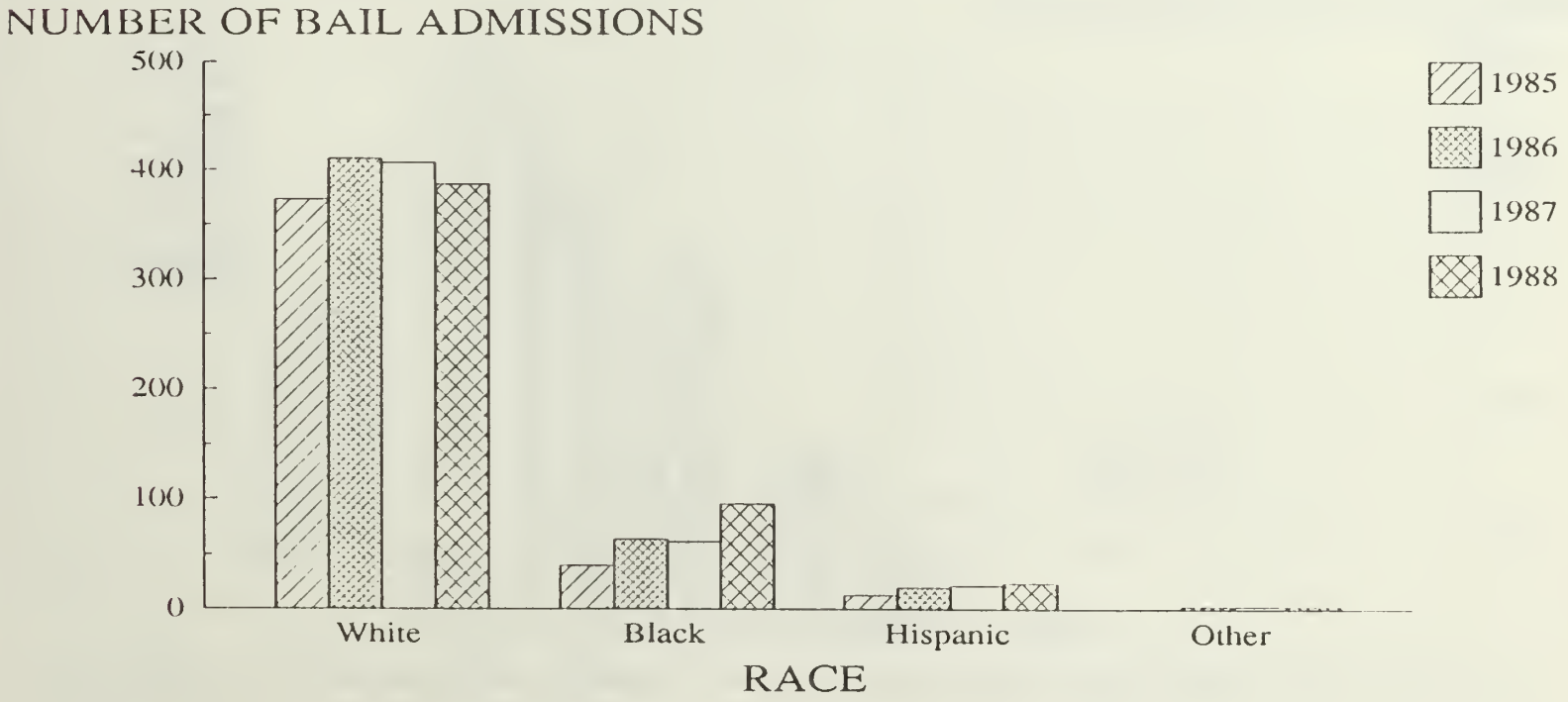
The Southeast Region experienced almost a twenty percent increase in bail detention admissions from 1985 to 1986 (427 to 498) and since 1986, has remained fairly constant with admissions totaling 498 during 1986, 494 during 1987, and 510 during 1988.



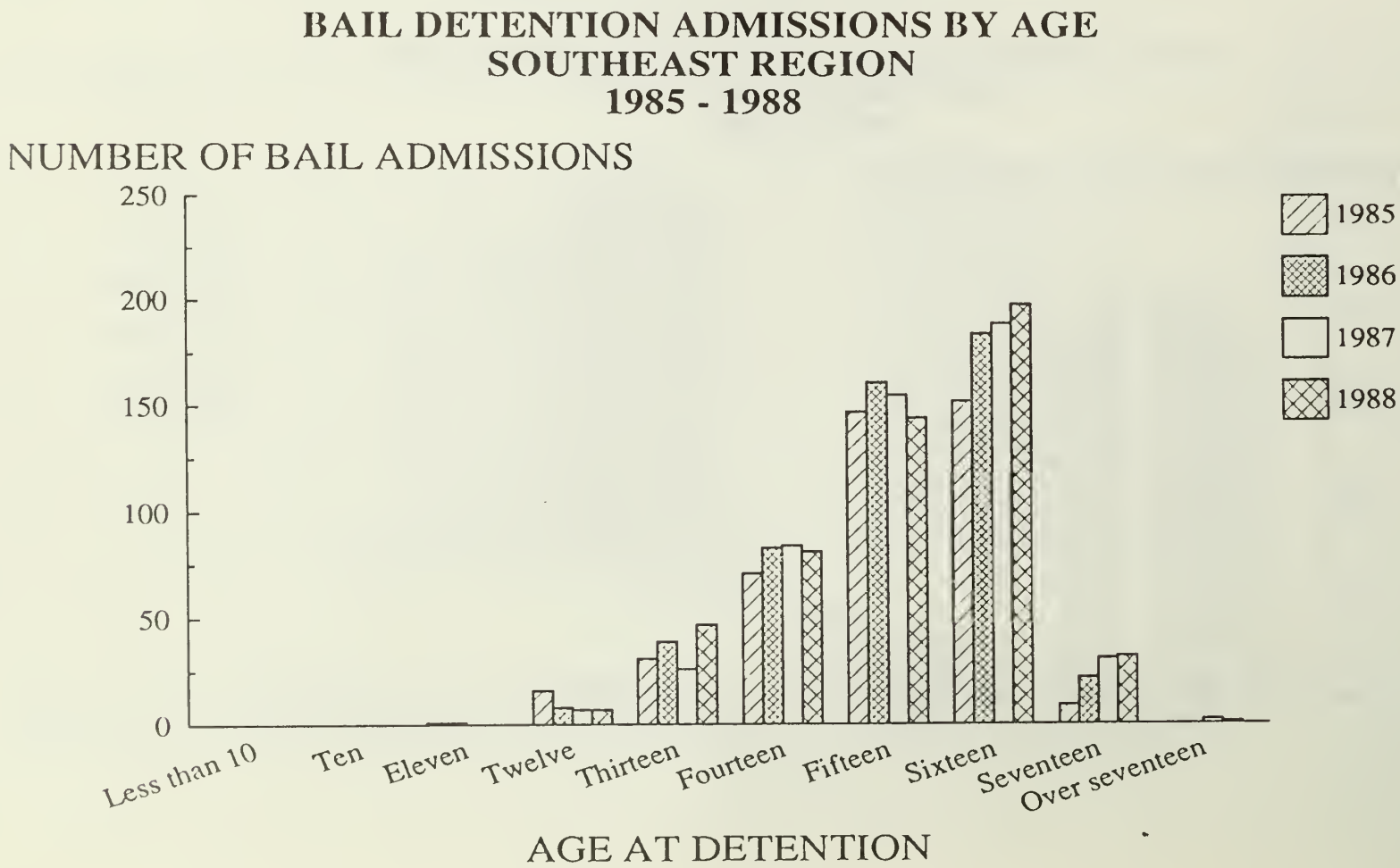

SEX: The number of bail admissions who were female in the Southeast Region has increased from 1985 to 1988 - an increase of fifty percent. The number of male bail admissions has also increased during this period by almost fifteen percent.

**RACE**: The number of bail admissions from the Southeast Region who were white increased from 1985 to 1986, but has been declining since then. The comparison of white bail admissions from 1985 to 1988 reveals an increase of four percent. However, in 1985 white admissions accounted for 87% of the region's bail admissions while in 1988 white admissions accounted for 76%. The number of black and Hispanic admissions have increased over the four year period. Black bail admissions more than doubled from 1985 to 1988, and there was an increase of fifty-five percent from 1987 to 1988 in black bail admissions to the Southeast Region. Hispanic admissions have increased by eighty-five percent from 1985 to 1988, but have remained fairly constant from 1986 to 1988.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
## SOUTHEAST REGION
## 1985 - 1988

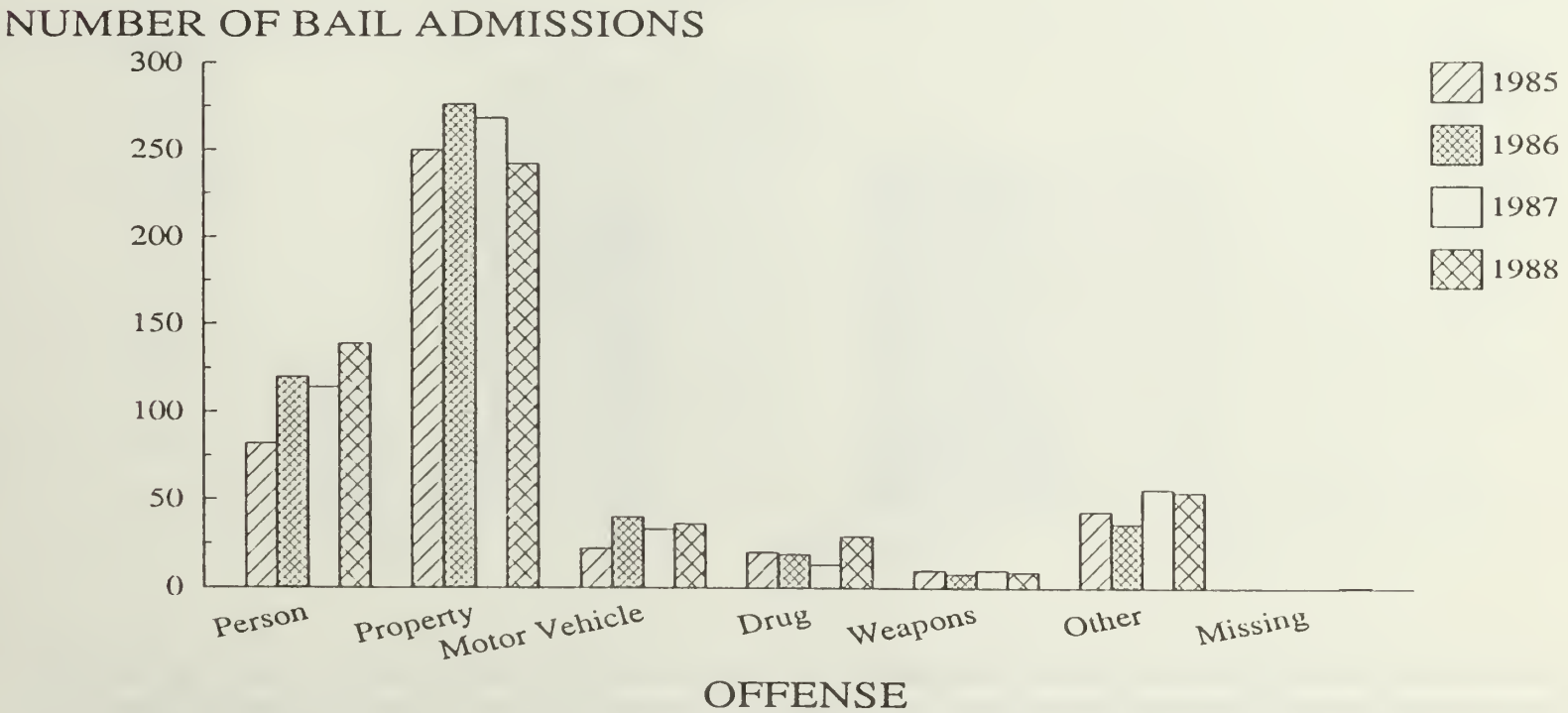


AGE: The Southeast Region has experienced some dramatic changes in bail admissions in certain age categories. The younger admissions (twelve and younger) have decreased from 1985 to 1988. Admissions who were fifteen years old at the time of their admissions have also declined slightly in 1988 compared to 1985. There were increases in the admissions who were thirteen (+52%), fourteen (+14%), and sixteen (+30%) years old at the time of admission into detention when comparing the 1985 totals to 1988. The largest increase in the Southeast Region occurred in the admissions who were seventeen years old upon their admission (+256%), an increase of twenty-three admissions.



**OFFENSE**: The bail admissions for property offenses in the Southeast Region have shown variation in the four year period. While the number of admissions for property offenses increased from 1985 to 1986 and from 1986 to 1987, there was a decrease of ten percent from 1987 to 1988. However, the number of bail admissions for person offenses increased in all but one year, showing an increase of twenty-two percent from 1987 to 1988. In addition, the proportion of bail admissions who were person offenders in the Southeast Region was nineteen percent in 1985 and for 1988, they represented twenty-seven percent of the bail admission population in the region.

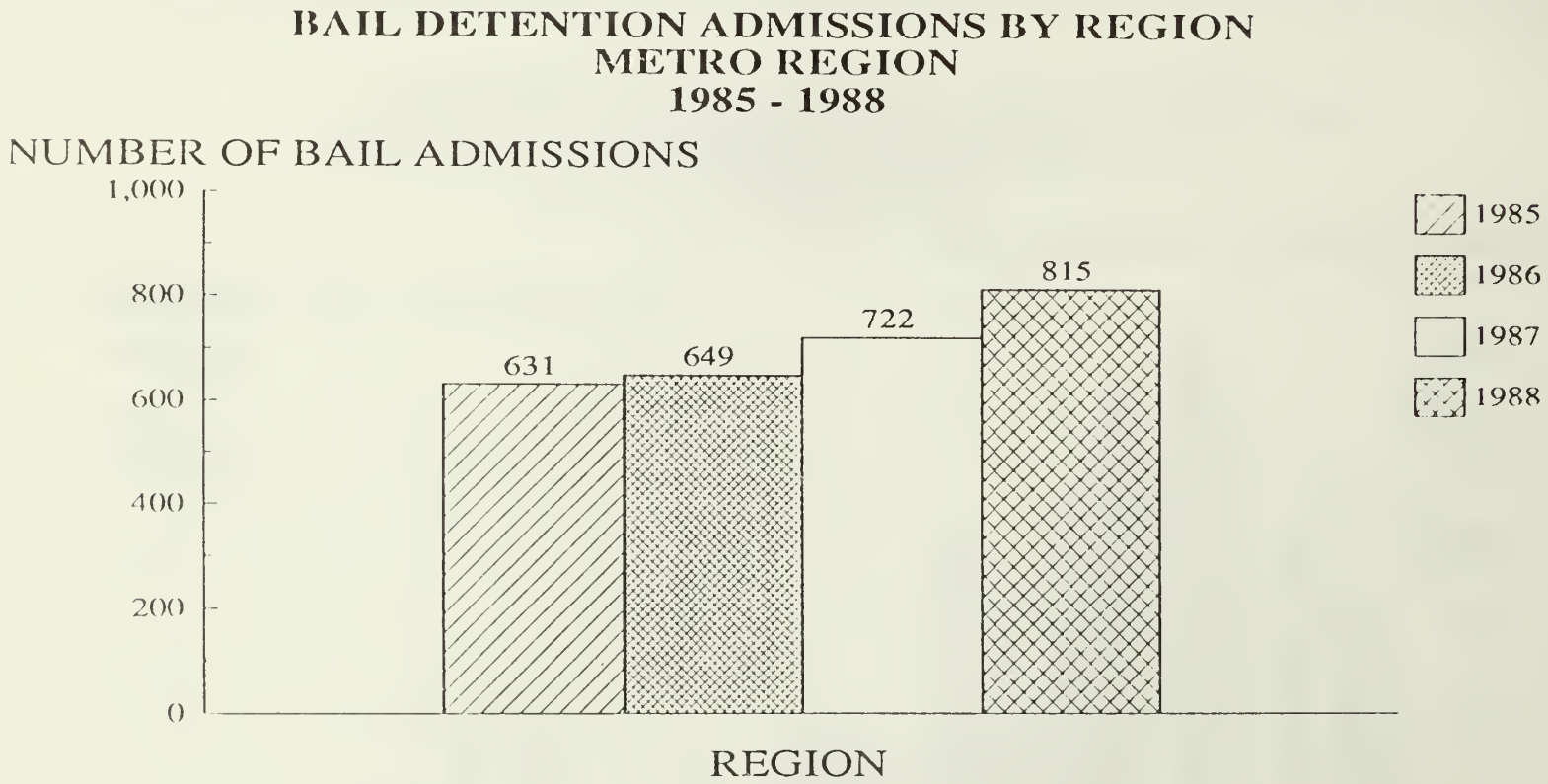
## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
## SOUTHEAST REGION
## 1985 - 1988




**BAIL AMOUNT**: Admissions in the Southeast Region who receive a bail amount of between $501 and $1000 have shown a consistent increase from 1985 to 1988. Admissions with bail amounts less than one hundred dollars were high during 1986 and 1987, but the 1988 total is consistent with the 1985 numbers. There have also been increases in the number of admissions who had bail denied, up sixty percent since 1985.

# METRO REGION

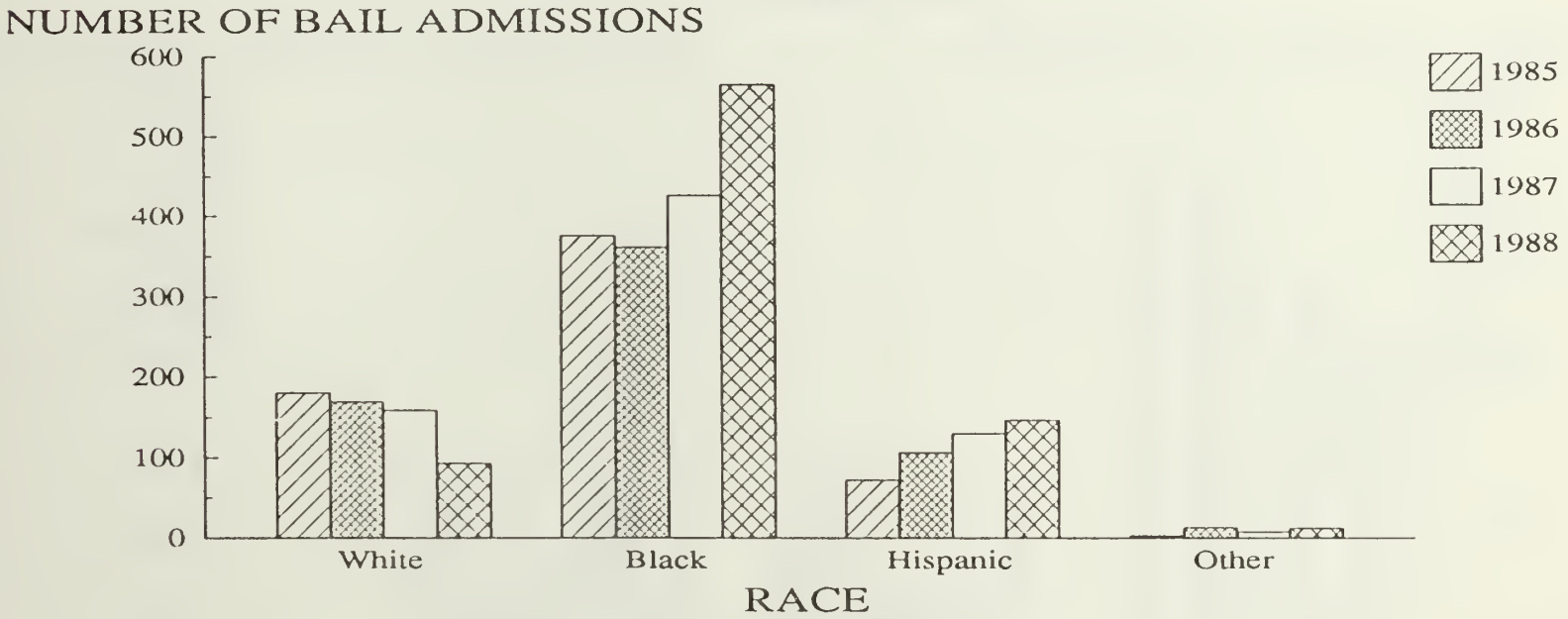
The Metro Boston Region has seen a consistently increasing number of bail detention admissions during the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The 1988 total of 815 bail admissions was the highest during the four years.




SEX: The number of bail admissions who were female has decreased every year since 1985 in the Metro Region, with the decrease from 1985 to 1988 being twenty-one percent. At the same time, the number of male admissions has steadily increased over the four year period. The number of male bail admissions to the region have increased by forty percent in 1988 compared to the 1985 total.

**RACE:** The Metro Region has seen a steady erosion in the number of bail admissions who were white from 1985 to 1988. Since 1985, the number of white admissions has decreased by fifty percent; in 1985 white bail admissions accounted for almost thirty percent of the Metro Region's bail admission population while in 1988 they account for only eleven percent. While this is happening, the black and Hispanic populations have been increasing. The black bail population has increased by fifty percent and the Hispanic population has doubled when comparing admissions in 1985 to 1988. Black and Hispanic admissions now represent almost ninety percent of the Metro Region's bail admission population.

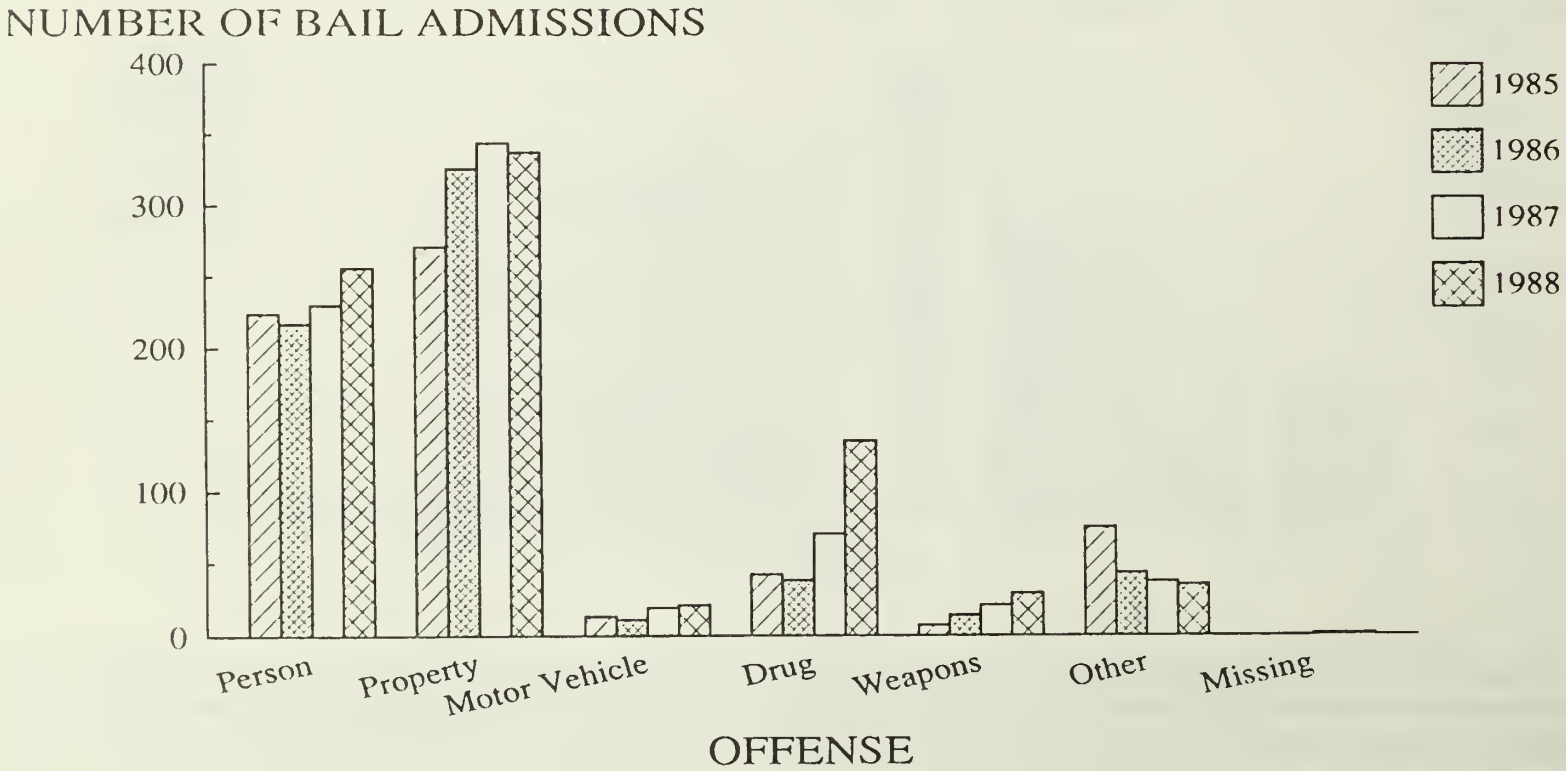
**BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE**
**METRO REGION**
**1985 - 1988**




**AGE:** The region has experienced increases in all age categories in 1988 compared to 1985. The number of admissions who were twelve or younger increased by 82%. In the thirteen to fifteen year age range, there were fluctuations between the years but a definite increase in the number of bail admissions who fell in those age ranges in 1988 as compared to 1985. The bail admissions in the Metro Region who were sixteen increased each year from 1985 to 1988 and the total increase from 1985 to 1988 was thirty-four percent. Bail admissions who were seventeen years of age upon admission also increased, but not significantly.

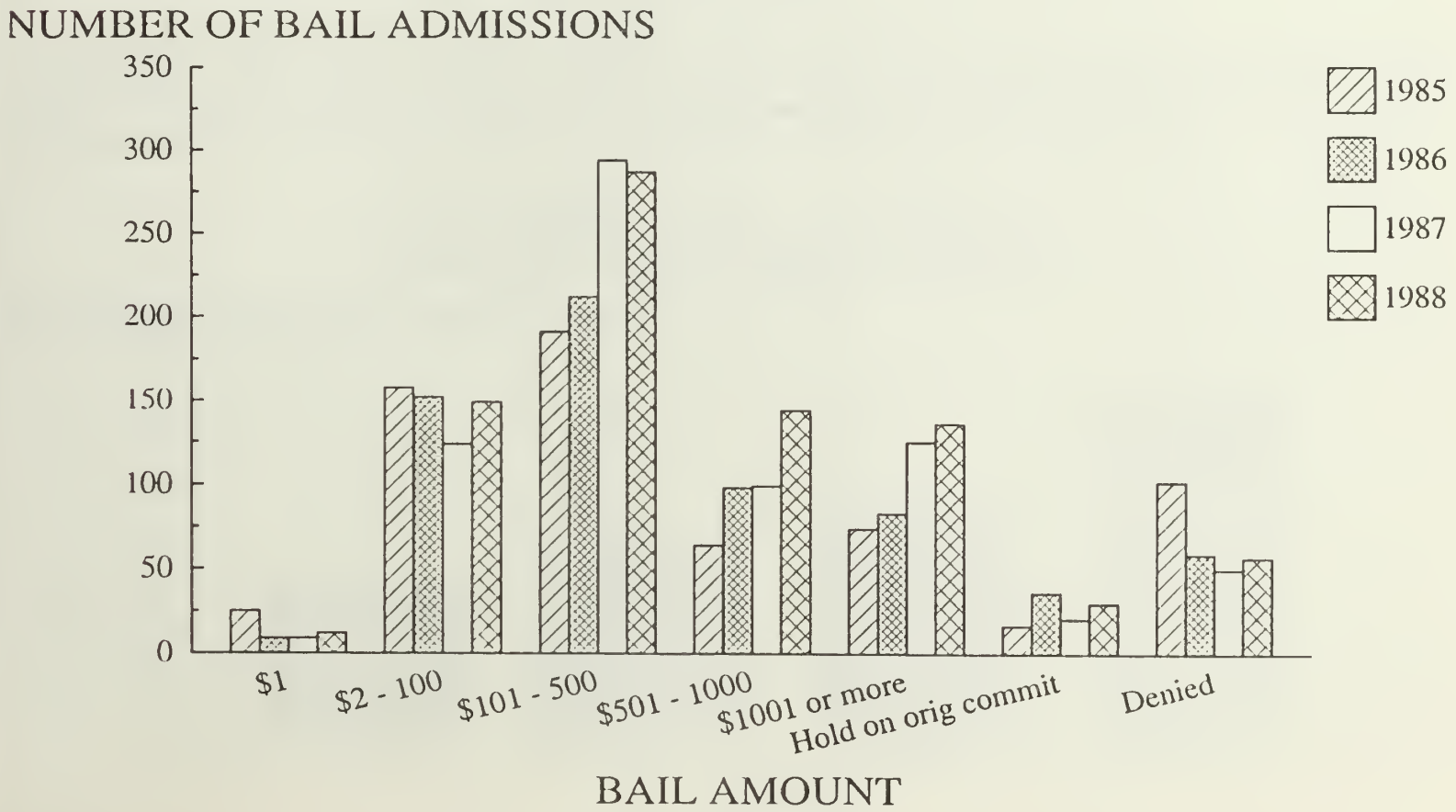
OFFENSE: The Metro Region experienced a decrease in the number of bail admissions for offenses against the person from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 the numbers have increased. The number of admissions for offenses against the person increased by fourteen percent in 1988 compared to the number in 1985. Admissions for property offenses increased overall from 1985 to 1988, but there was a slight decrease in the numbers from 1987 to 1988. Drugs and weapons offenses were the two categories that exhibited the largest increases from 1985 to 1988. Metro Region bail admissions for drug offenses increased by over two hundred percent (93 admissions) and the admissions for weapons offenses increased by over three hundred percent (21 admissions).

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
## METRO REGION
## 1985 - 1988



**BAIL AMOUNT**: There has been a decrease in the bail admissions receiving a bail amount of one hundred dollars or less from 1985 to 1988 (-6%). The bail category of between $101 and $500 has increased fifty percent from 1985 to 1988; the category $501 to $1000 has more than doubled during the same time period. The admissions receiving a bail amount of more than one thousand dollars increased by almost ninety percent while the numbers of youth in the Metro Region who had their bail denied has decreased by almost fifty percent from 1985 to 1988.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AMOUNT OF BAIL
## METRO REGION
## 1985 - 1988



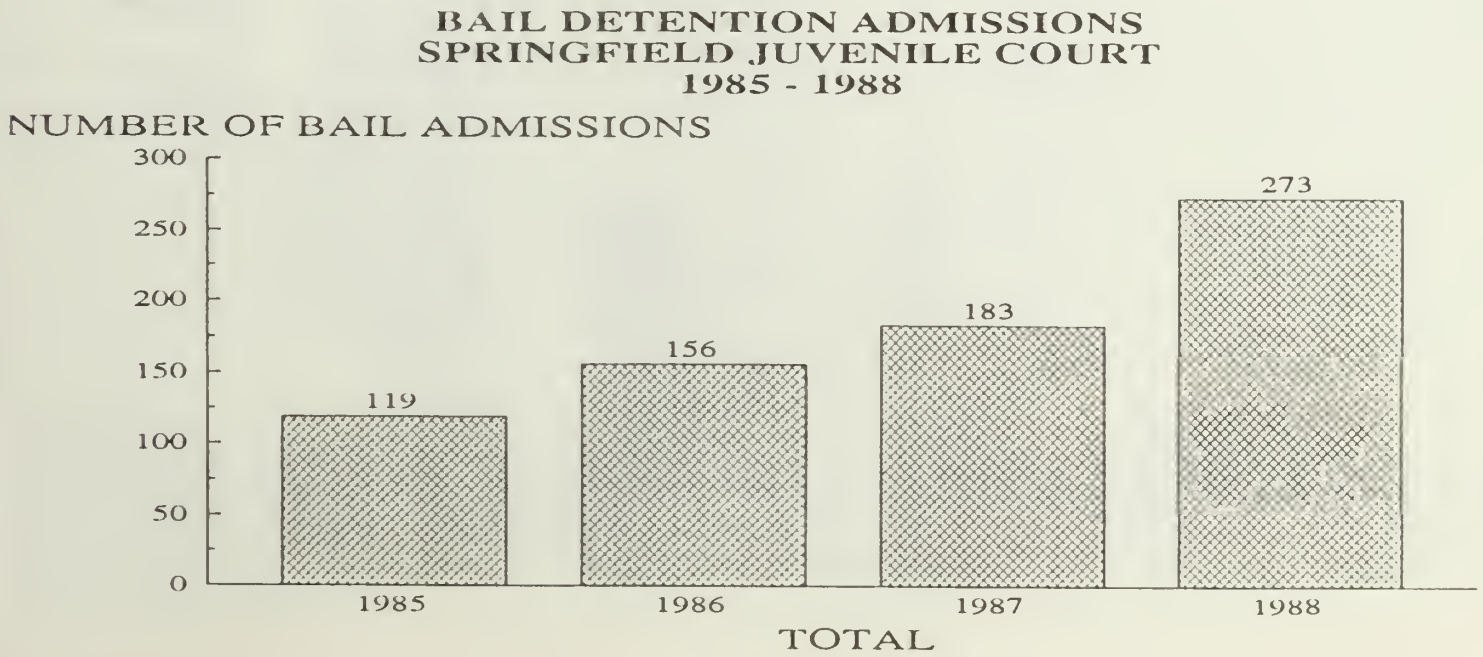
# SECTION IV - COURT INFORMATION

# SECTION IV - COURT INFORMATION

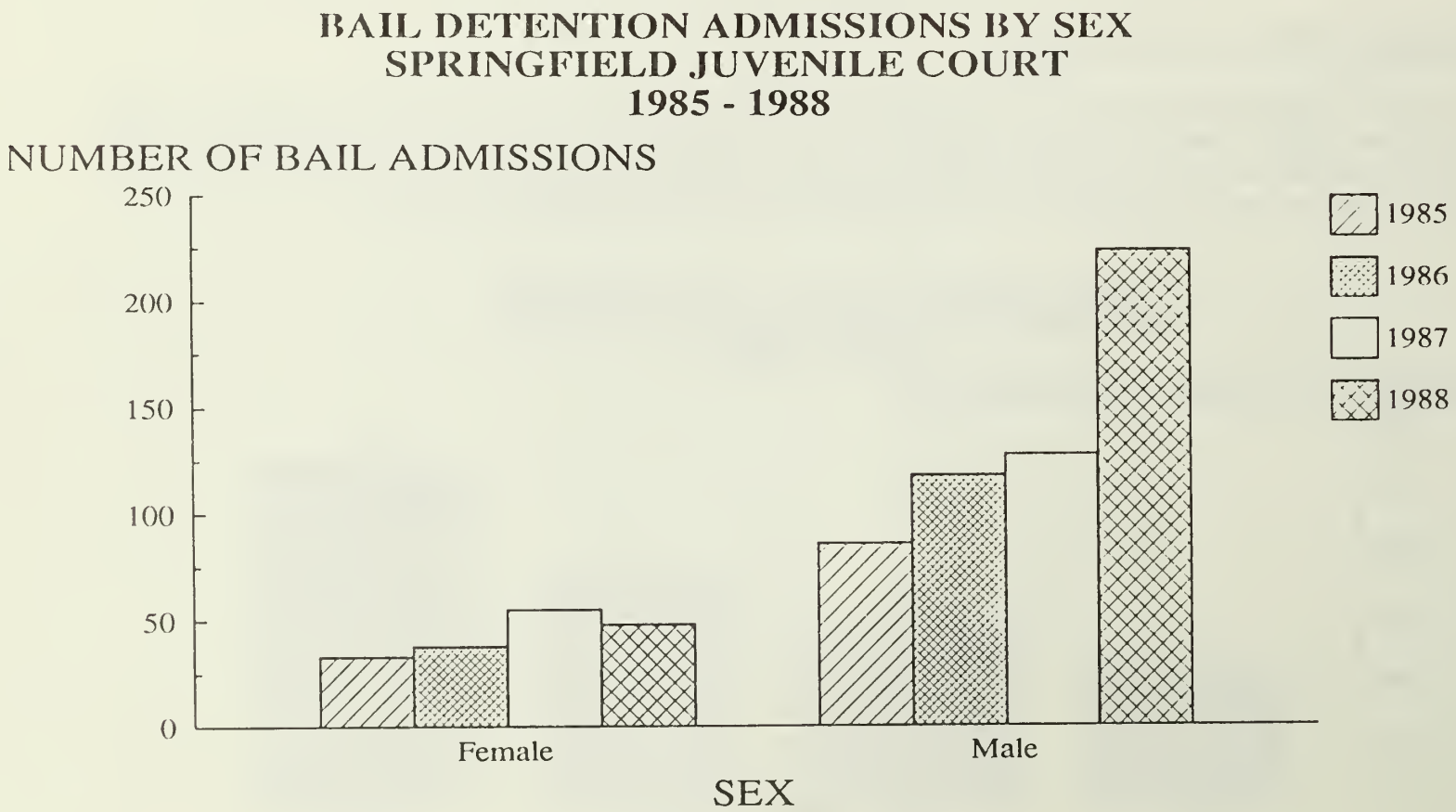
The courts that had at least one hundred bail detention admissions during 1988 were Springfield Juvenile Court, Worcester Juvenile Court, Lawrence Court, Brockton Court, Roxbury Court, Dorchester Court, and Boston Juvenile Court. The remainder of this section discusses characteristics of each of these courts to determine if there are any important changes in the bail admissions from these courts.

## I. Springfield Juvenile Court

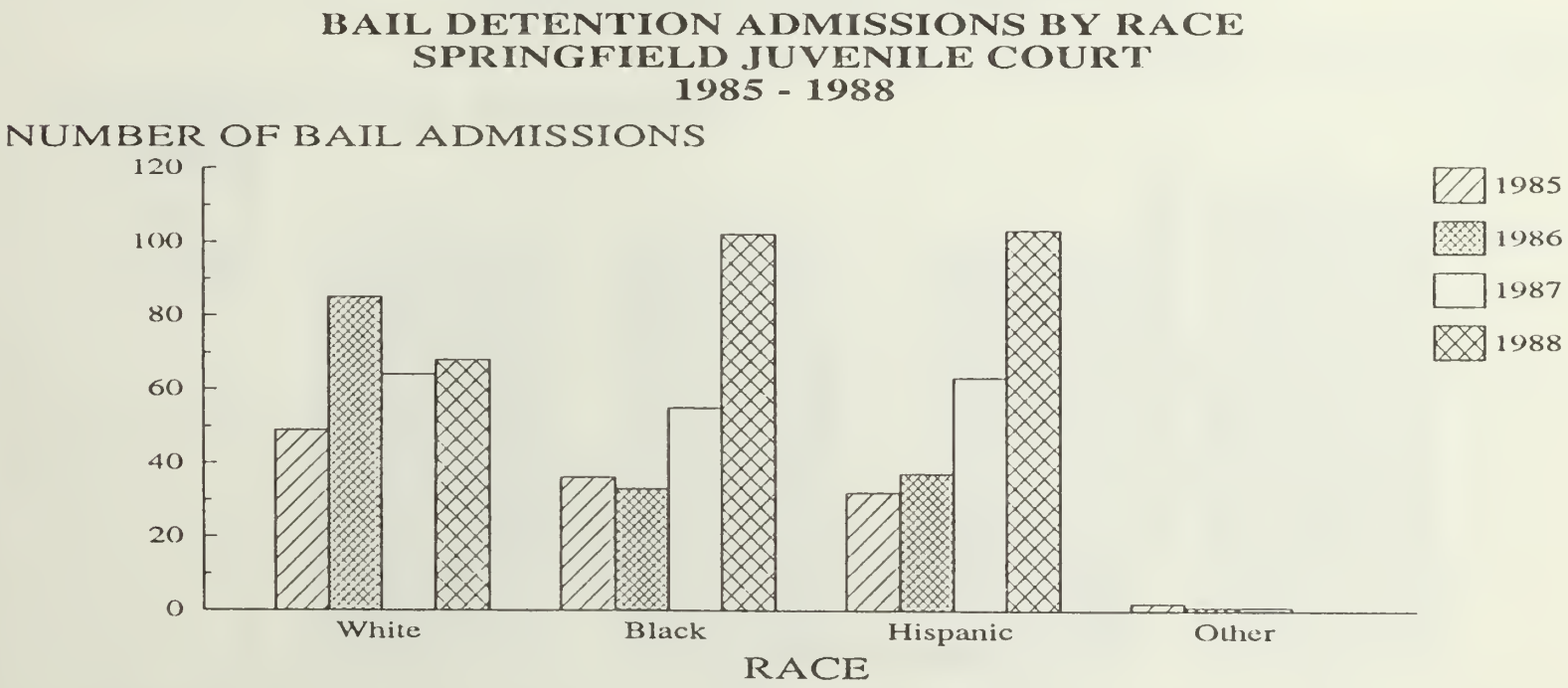
The number of bail detention admissions from the Springfield Juvenile Court have shown a constant increase over the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The numbers of admissions was 119 during 1985, 156 during 1986, 183 during 1987, and 273 during 1988. From 1985 to 1988, the admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court increased by over one hundred percent (129%). Compared to 1987, the admissions from this court during 1988 increased by almost fifty percent (49%).



SEX: The proportion of females from Springfield Juvenile Court has decreased from 1985 to 1988, decreasing from twenty-seven percent of the population in 1985 to only eighteen percent of the population in 1988. While this was true, the number of female bail admissions from Springfield Court increased by almost fifty percent (+45%) from 1985 to 1988 with 33 admissions in 1985 and 48 admissions during 1988. The proportion of males from this court has increased over the four years and the actual number of male admissions has also increased. From 1985 to 1988, the number of male detention admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court went from 86 during 1985 to 225 during 1988, an increase of over one hundred and fifty percent (+162%).

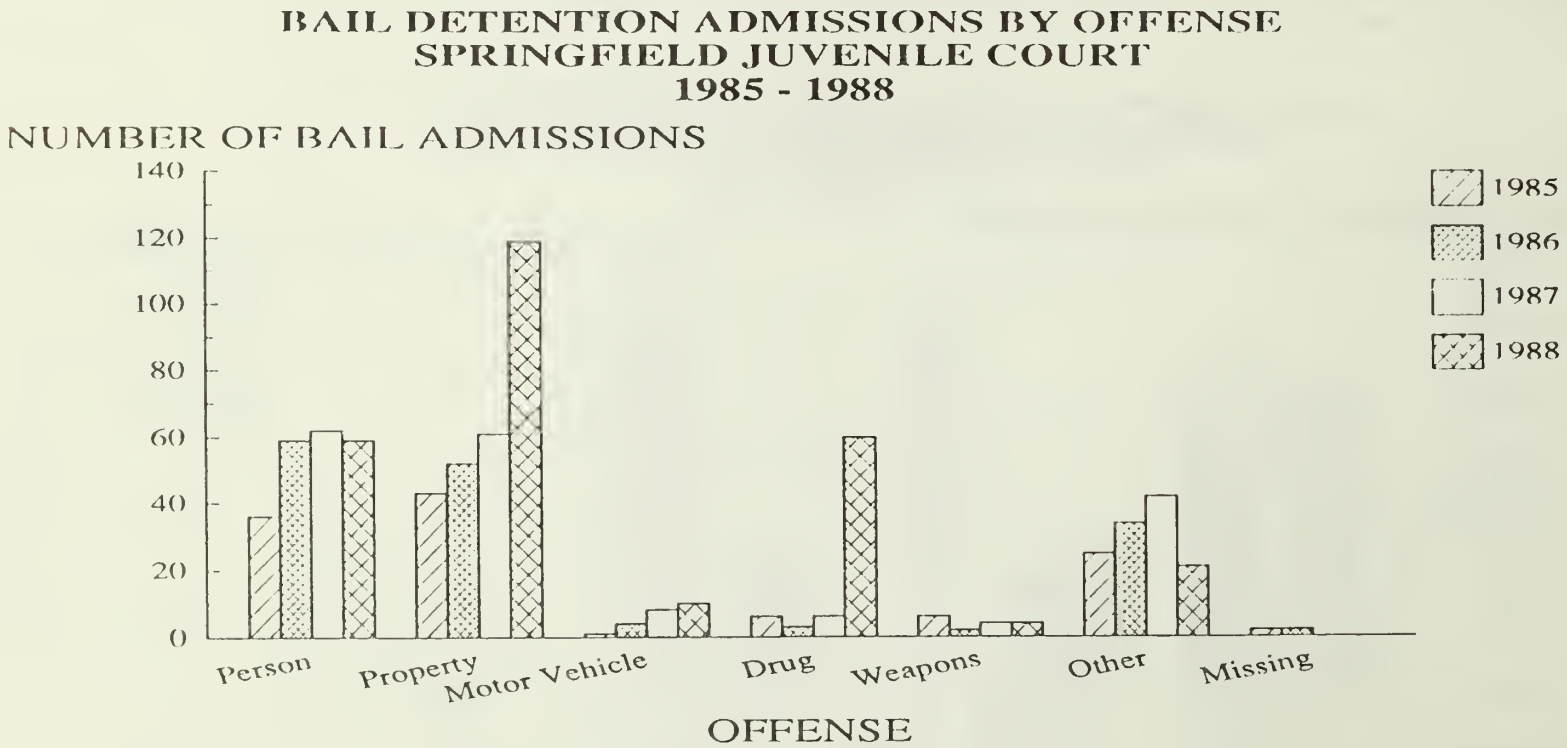


**RACE**: The racial proportions of the bail detention admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court have changed significantly from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, forty-one percent of the bail detention admissions were white, thirty percent were black, and twenty-seven percent were Hispanic. These proportions changed to the following for 1988: white youth were twenty-five percent of the admissions, black youth were thirty-seven percent, and Hispanic youth were thirty-eight percent. In other words, the proportion of white youth decreased while the proportions of black and Hispanic youth increased. In actual terms, the numbers of white youth increased by forty percent from 1985 to 1988, black youth increased by almost two hundred percent (+183%), and Hispanic youth increased by over two hundred percent (+222%). According to census figures for the Springfield area, white juveniles (0-17 yrs) represent 82% of the juvenile population, black youth represent 17%, and youth of Spanish origin represent 10%.




**AGE**: While there were increases in all age categories for detention admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court, certain age ranges had some important changes over the four year period. During 1985, fourteen year olds represented almost thirty percent (27%) of the bail detention admissions while during 1988 they represented almost twenty percent (18%). Sixteen year olds represented almost thirty percent (29%) of bail detention admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court in 1985 while in 1988 they represented almost thirty-five percent (34%).

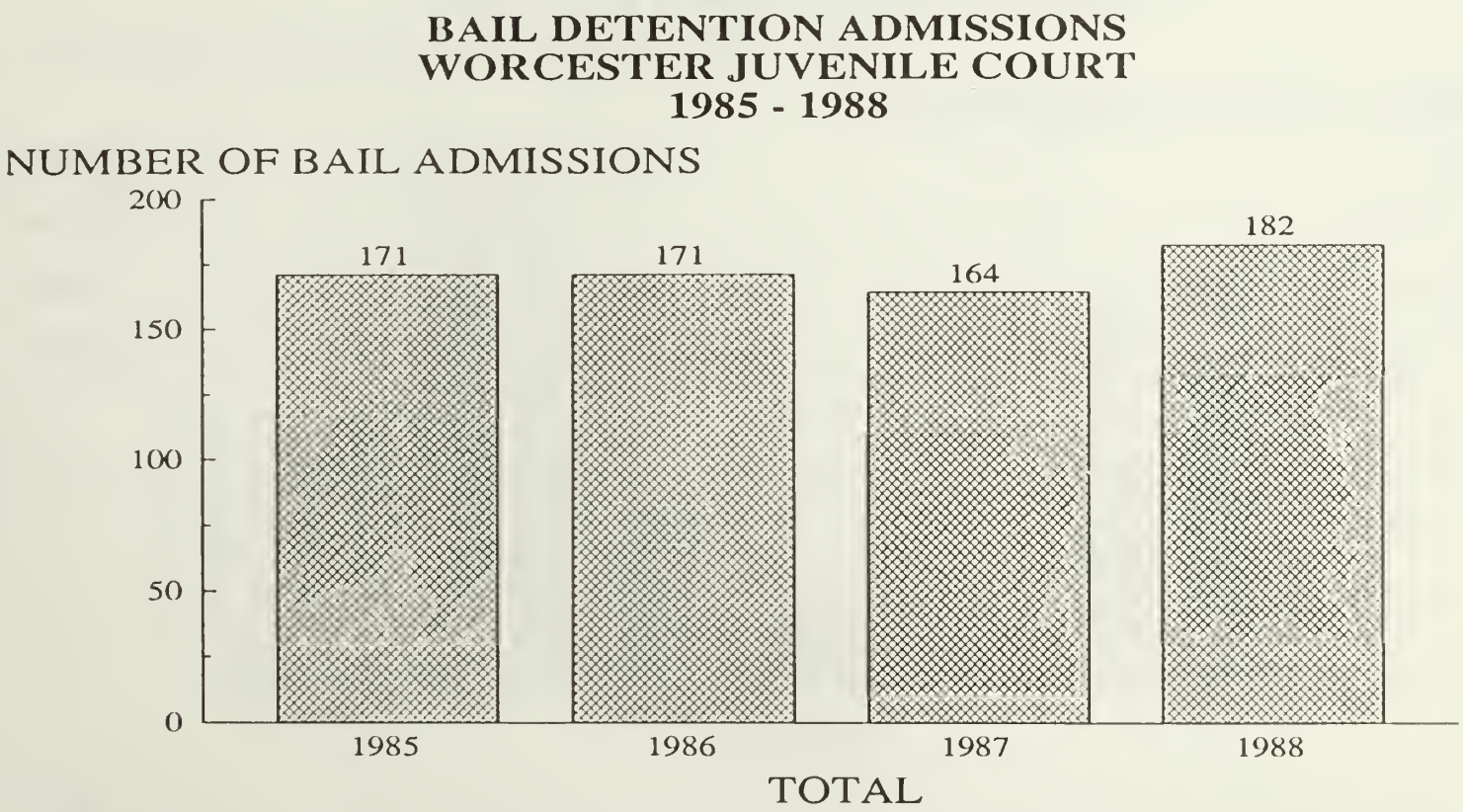
OFFENSE: There were changes in the offenses of the bail admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court from 1985 to 1988. During 1985, admissions to the detention system for offenses against the person represented thirty percent of the population while during 1988 they represented only twenty-two percent of the population. Admissions for offenses against property represented thirty-six percent of the population in 1985 and almost fifty percent of the population (44%) during 1988. The biggest change was in drug offenses - in 1985, admissions for drug offenses represented only five percent of the admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court while in 1988 they represented over twenty percent (22%) of the admissions.




BAIL AMOUNT: All bail categories from Springfield Juvenile Court except the dollar bail category showed increases from 1985 to 1988. Admissions from Springfield Court with bail over five hundred dollars and less than one thousand dollars had the largest increase over the four years with admissions increasing by over one thousand percent (1250%). Admissions from this court receiving a bail amount of over one thousand dollars also experienced an increase of over three hundred percent.

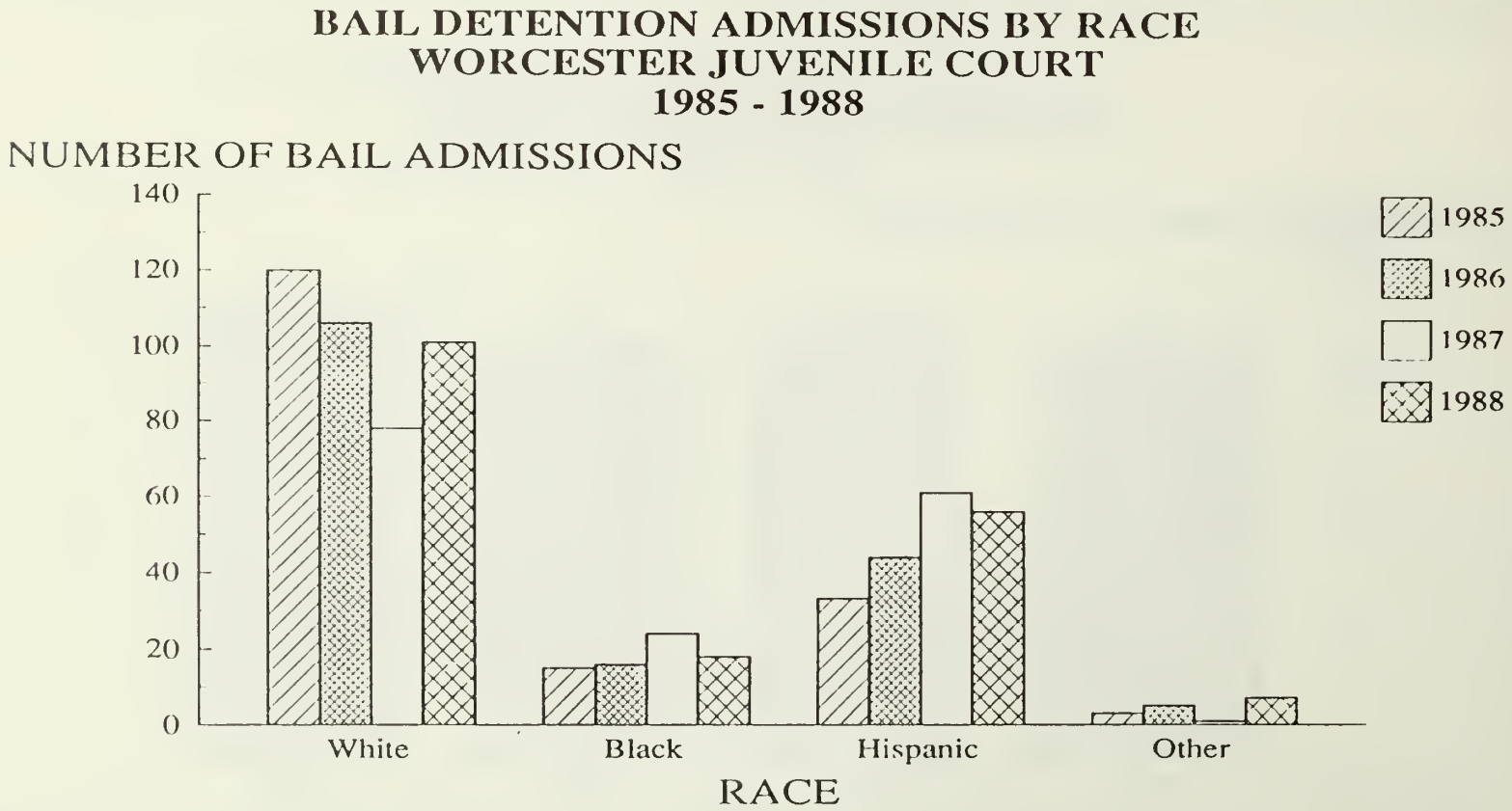
# II. Worcester Juvenile Court

The number of bail admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court remained fairly constant from 1985 to 1988 with no dramatic increases or decreases. The number of admissions were 171 during 1985, 171 during 1986, 164 during 1987, and 182 during 1988. From 1985 to 1988, bail admissions increased by six percent. Compared to the number of admissions during 1987, admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court increased by eleven percent.



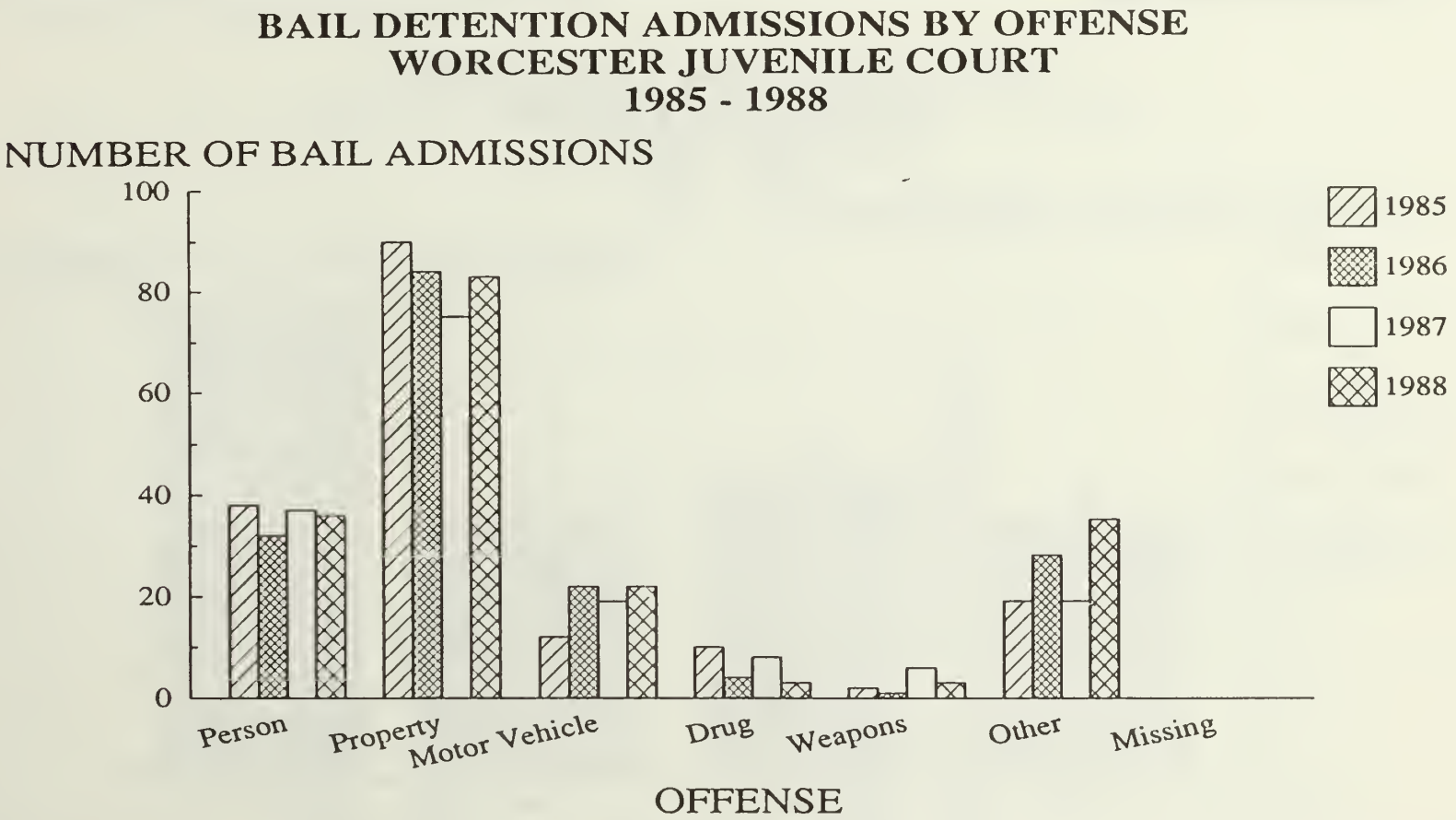

**SEX:** The proportion of females admitted from the Worcester Juvenile Court remained mostly constant over the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The total number of females and males admitted during 1988 was only six percent higher than the number during 1985. Compared to 1987, females increased by twenty-seven percent during 1988 while males increased by six percent.

RACE: The proportion of admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court during 1985 who were white was seventy percent and the proportion who were Hispanic was almost twenty percent (19%). However, for 1988 the proportion of the admissions who were white was down below sixty percent (55%) while the proportion of Hispanics was over thirty percent (31%). In actual numbers of admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court compared to 1985, whites have decreased by over fifteen percent (16%), blacks have increased by twenty percent, and Hispanics have increased by seventy percent.




AGE: There was an increase in the number of youth from the Worcester Juvenile Court who were younger than fifteen when admitted to the detentions system over the four years. From 1985 to 1988, admissions in that age category increased by twenty-five percent. For admissions older than fourteen, there was basically no change over the four years.

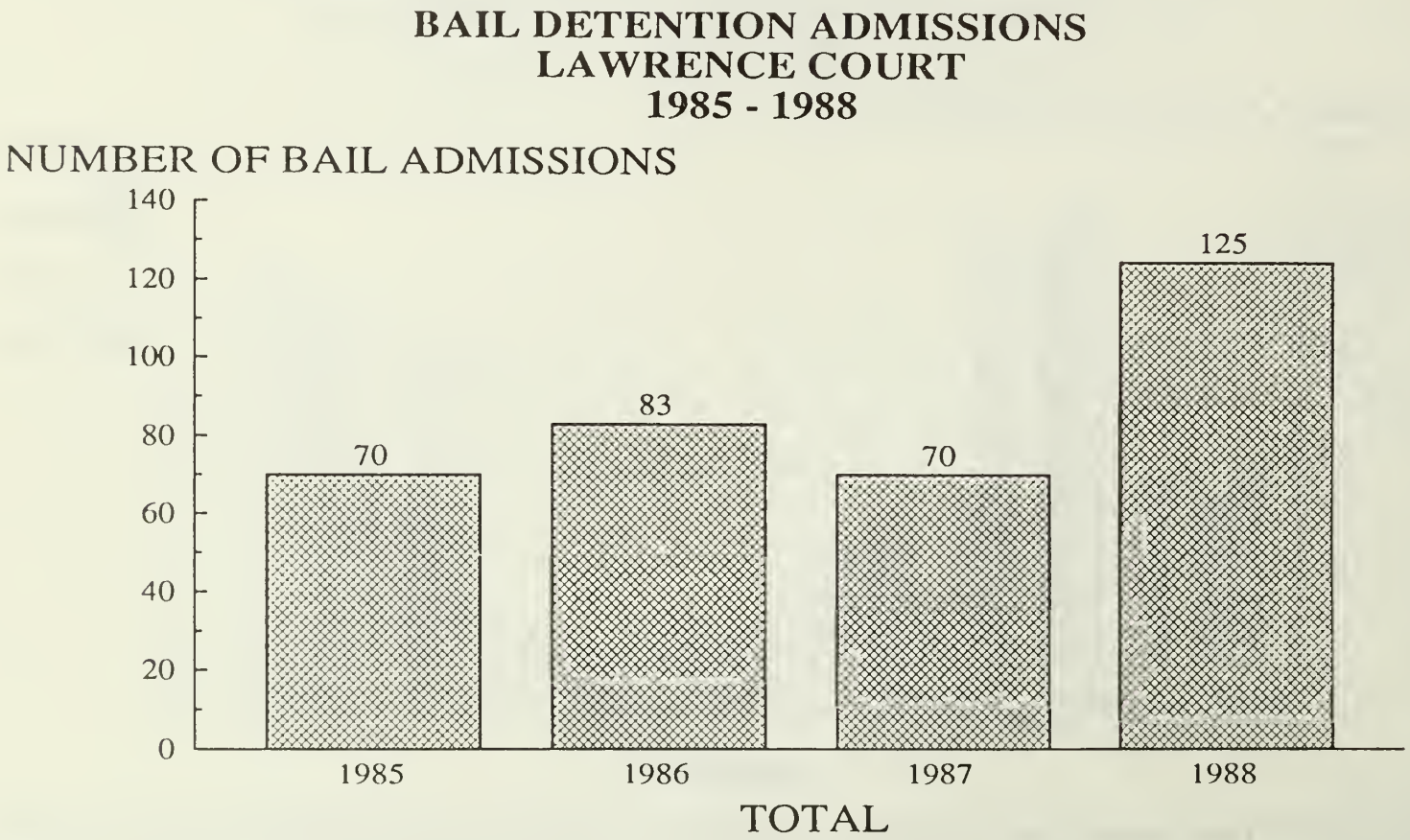
**OFFENSE**: The proportion of admissions from Worcester Juvenile Court for offenses against the person remained somewhat constant over the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The number of admissions for property offenses fluctuated slightly but the proportion of all admissions that were property offenses decreased from fifty-three percent in 1985 to forty-six percent in 1988.




**BAIL AMOUNT**: There was an increase over the four years in the number of admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court who received a bail amount of less than one hundred dollars; admissions for bail amounts of less than one hundred dollars increased almost twenty percent (19%) from 1985 to 1988. While there were some slight changes in the other bail categories, none of the changes were significant.

# III. Lawrence Court

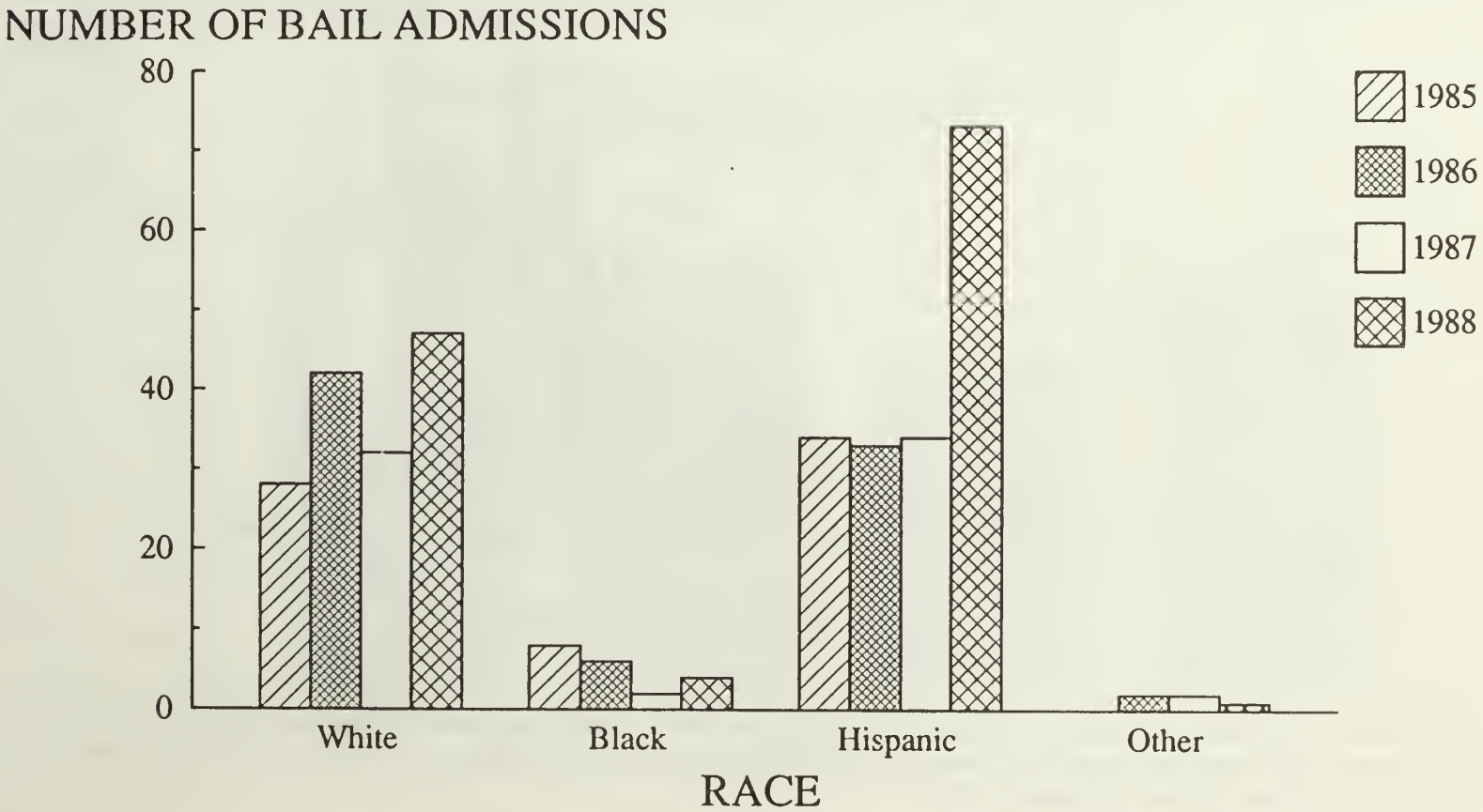
The number of bail detention admissions from the Lawrence Court increased from 1985 to 1986, decreased from 1986 to 1987, and increased from 1987 to 1988. Compared to 1985 and 1987, bail detention admissions from the Lawrence Court increased by almost eighty percent (79%).



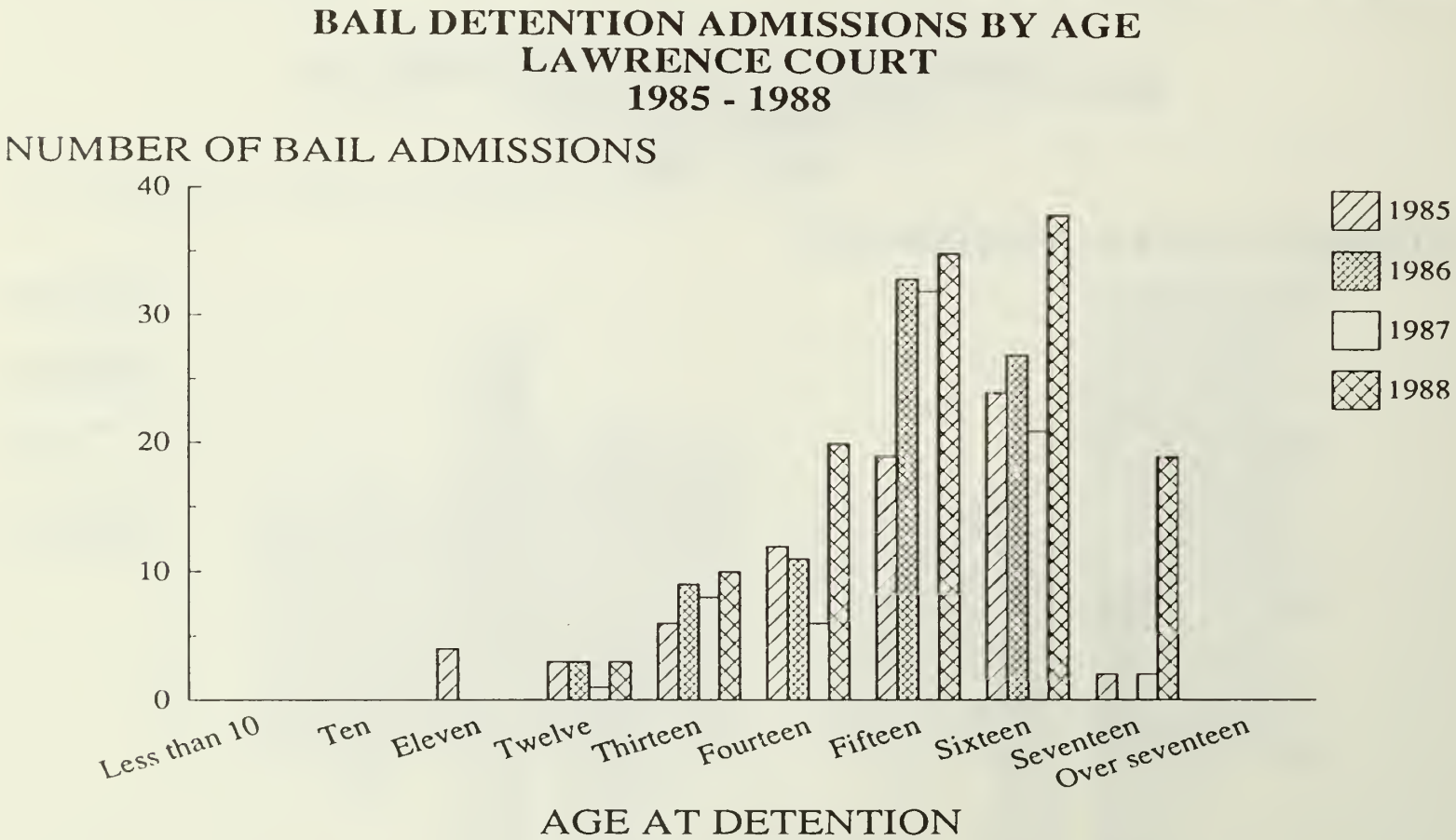

SEX: The proportions of males and females of the bail detention population from the Lawrence Court remained similar for the four year period from 1985 to 1988. Overall, females increased by ninety percent from 1985 to 1988 (10 to 19 respectively) while males increased by seventy-seven percent (60 to 106 respectively).

**RACE**: There was an increase in the proportion and number of Hispanic bail detention admissions from Lawrence Court from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, Hispanics constituted almost half (49%) of the bail detention admissions from Lawrence while in 1988, almost sixty percent (58%) of the admissions were Hispanic. In actual numbers, the Hispanic bail admissions increased from 34 during 1985 to 73 during 1988, an increase of 115%.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
## LAWRENCE COURT
## 1985 - 1988



AGE: There were increases in all age ranges older than thirteen during the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The largest increase was in the seventeen year old age category; during 1985 there were only two bail admissions from Lawrence Court who were age seventeen at the time of their admission but in 1988, there were nineteen admissions age seventeen - an increase of over eight hundred percent (850%).

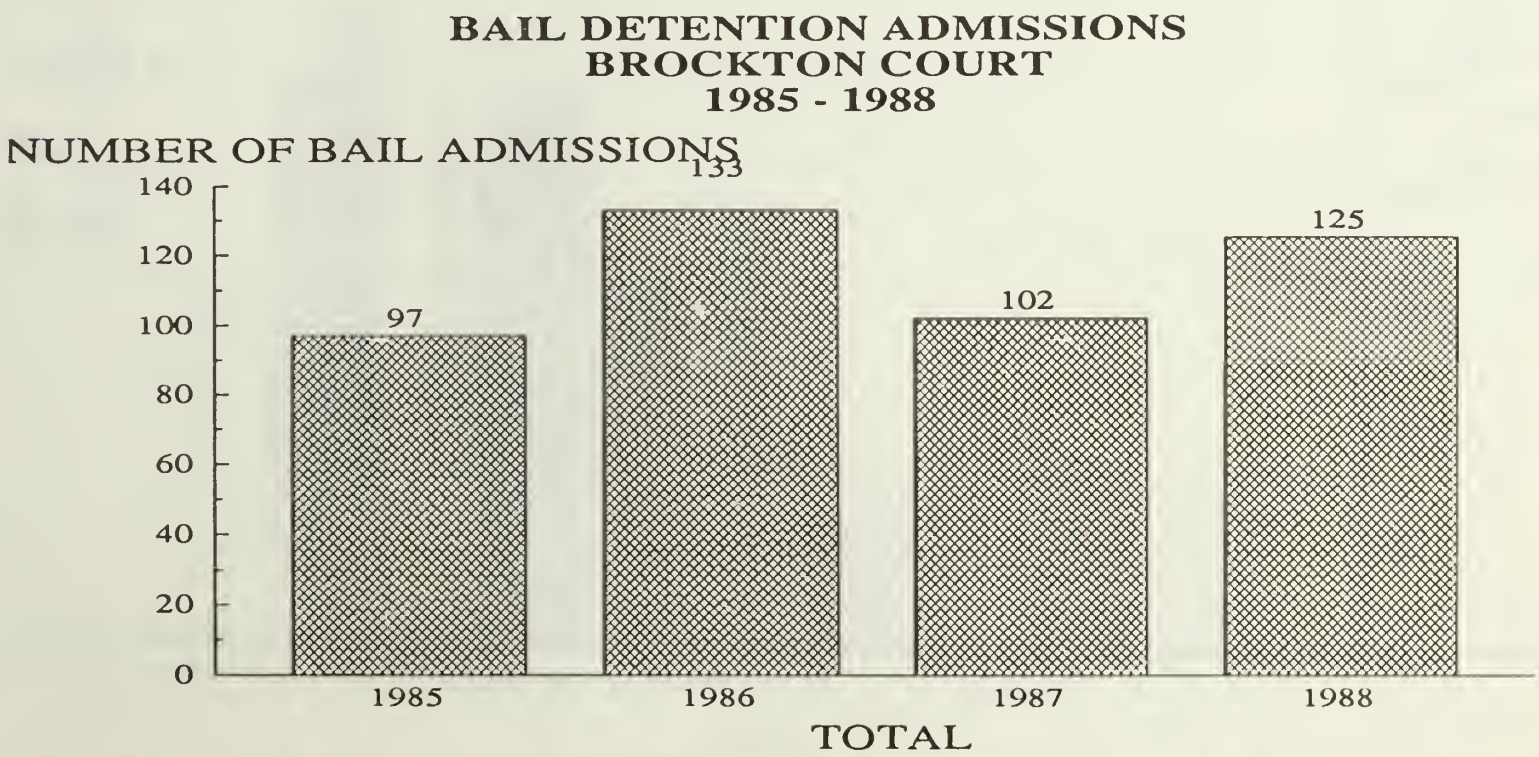



OFFENSE: While all offense categories showed increases from 1985 to 1988, there were no significant changes in the offense patterns for bail admissions from the Lawrence Court. The vast majority of the admissions were for property offenses (68%) followed by offenses against the person (18%).

**BAIL AMOUNT**: The vast majority of the bail admissions from the Lawrence Court received a bail amount of less than five hundred dollars (67%). The category showing the largest increase was the number of admissions denied bail. In 1985, there was only one admissions from Lawrence Court who had bail denied but during 1988 there were twelve admissions who were denied bail, an increase of over one thousand percent (1100%).

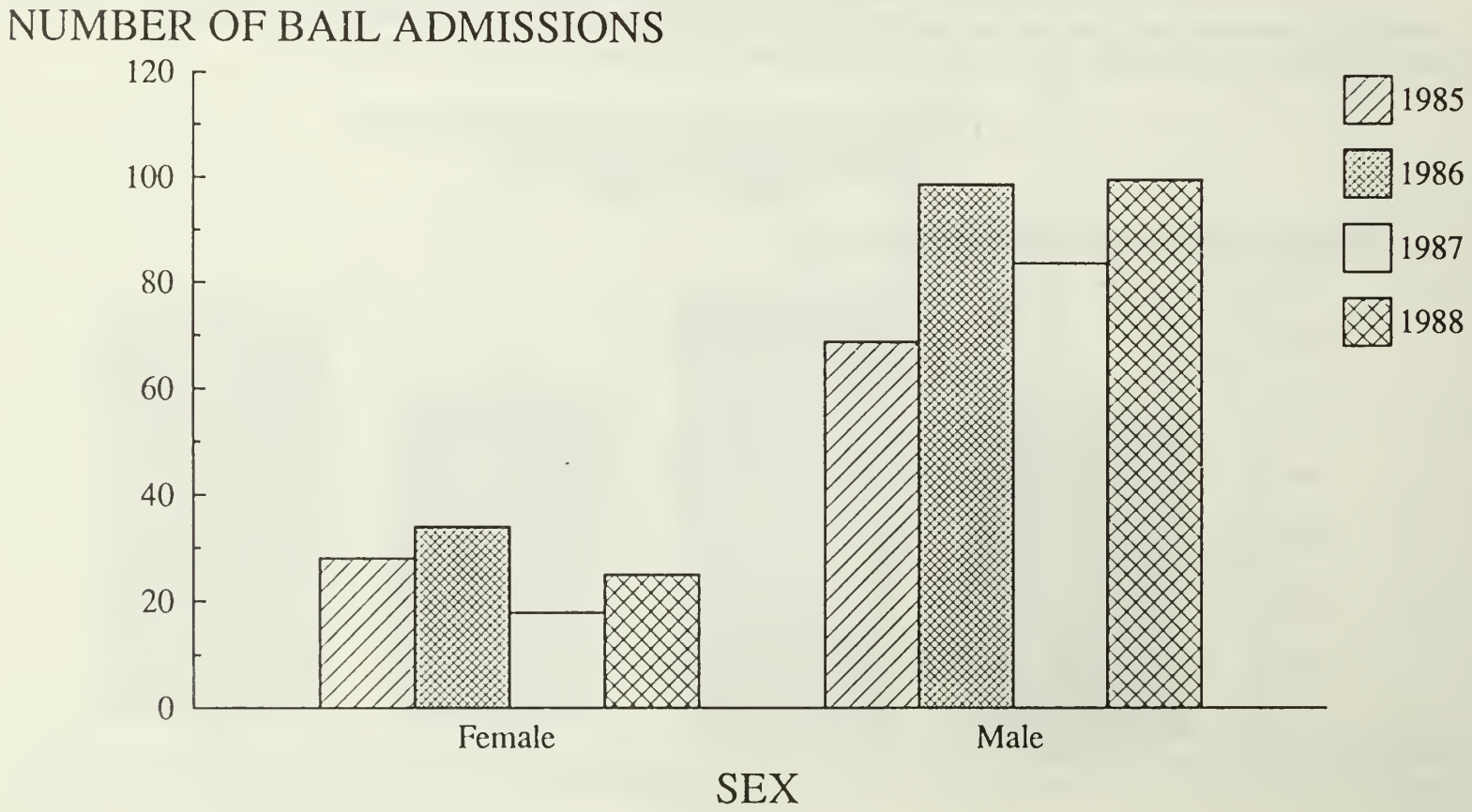
## IV. Brockton Court

The number of bail detention admissions from the Brockton Court increased by almost forty percent (37%) from 1985 to 1986 to the highest level during the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The number of admissions decreased by almost twenty-five percent (23%) from 1986 to 1987 but increased by almost twenty-five percent (23%) from 1987 to 1988.

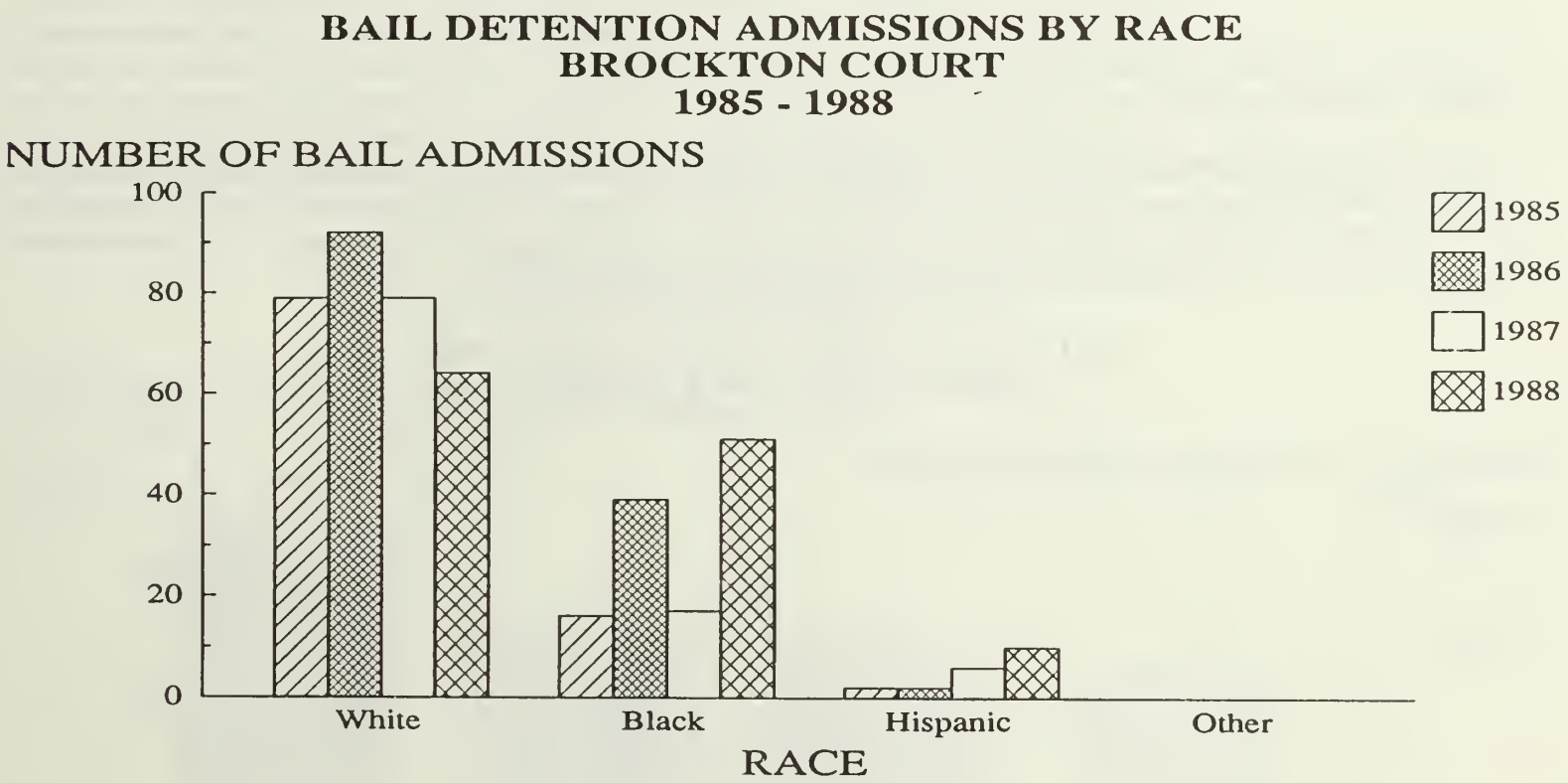


SEX: The proportion of females in the bail admission population from Brockton Court has decreased during the four year period from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, females represented almost thirty percent (29%) of the Brockton bail detention admissions but in 1988 females represented only twenty percent of the total. In actual numbers, females decreased by eleven percent during the four year period while males increased by forty-five percent.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY SEX
## BROCKTON COURT
## 1985 - 1988



**RACE:** The proportion of bail admissions from Brockton Court who were white decreased from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, whites represented slightly more than eighty percent (81%) of the bail admissions while in 1988, whites represented slightly more than fifty percent (51%). At the same time, black bail admissions from Brockton Court have increased. In 1985, blacks represented sixteen percent of the bail admissions while in 1988, they represented slightly more than forty percent (41%) of the bail detention admissions from Brockton Court. The white admissions decreased by almost twenty percent (19%) from 1985 to 1988 while the number of black admissions increased by over two hundred percent (219%).



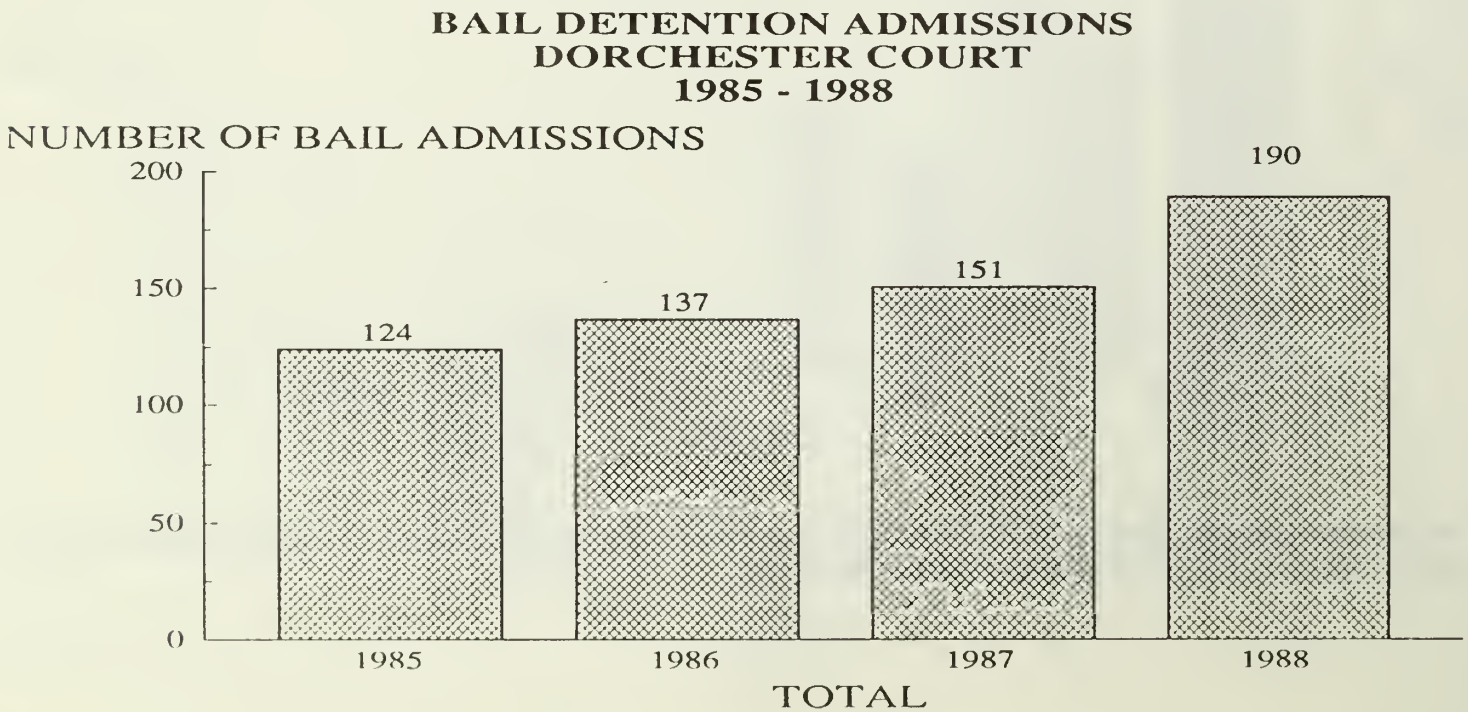

**AGE:** The three age categories showing increases from Brockton Court during the four year period were fourteen year olds (14 to 19), sixteen year olds (29 to 53), and seventeen year olds (0 to 8).

OFFENSE: Bail detention admissions from the Brockton Court held for offenses against the person increased by over two hundred percent (12 to 37) from 1985 to 1988. The proportion of the bail admissions who were person offenders increased from twelve percent in 1985 to thirty percent in 1988. While the majority of offenders from Brockton Court were being held for property offenses, the proportion was reduced from almost sixty percent in 1985 to slightly more than fifty percent in 1988.

BAIL AMOUNT: There was no bail category that showed significant changes during the four year period from 1985 to 1988.

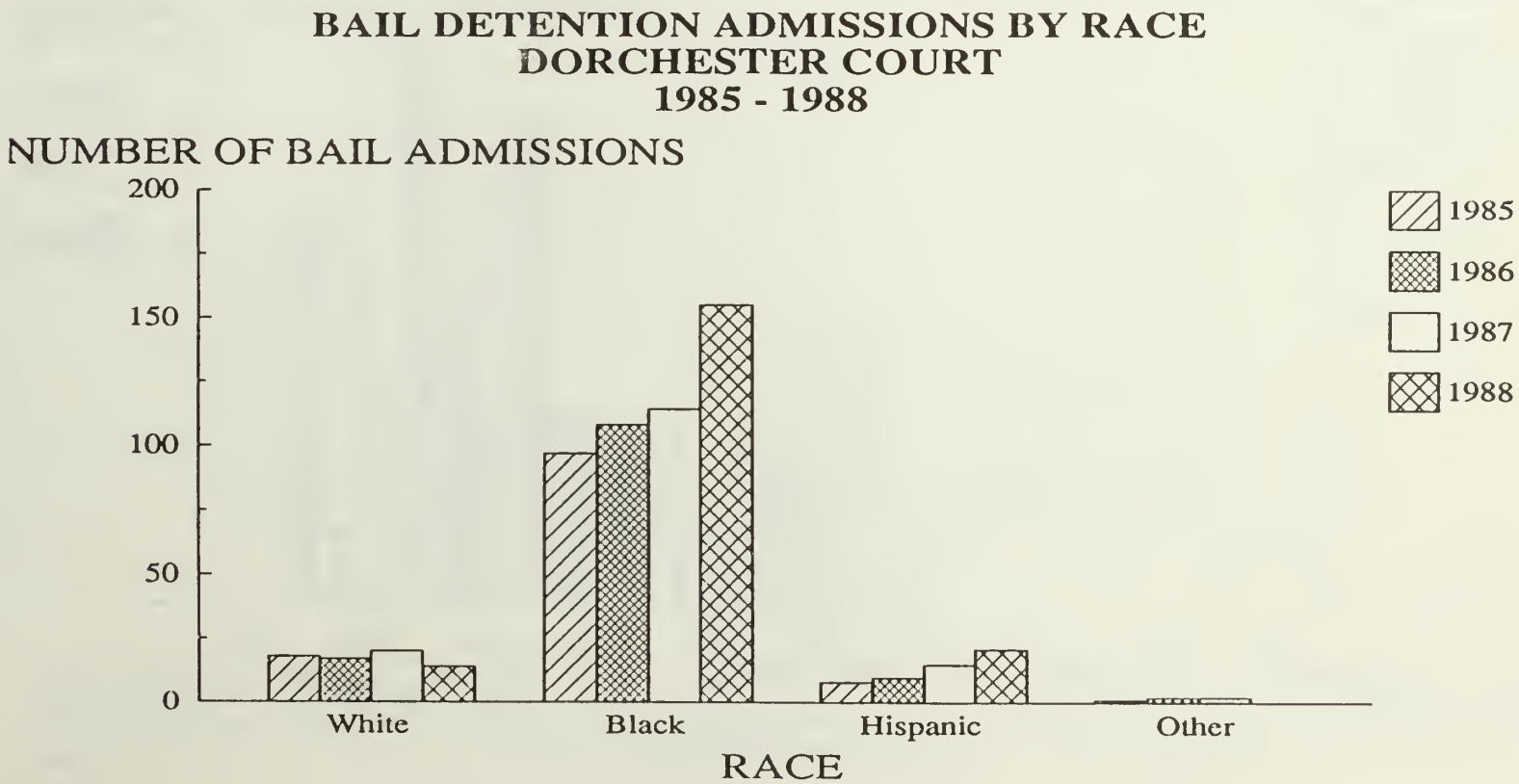
## V. Dorchester Court

The number of bail detention admissions from the Dorchester Court has shown a constant increase over the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The numbers of admissions was 124 during 1985, 137 during 1986, 151 during 1987, and 190 during 1988. From 1985 to 1988, the admissions from Dorchester Court increased by over fifty percent (53%). Compared to 1987, the admissions from this court during 1988 increased by slightly more than twenty-five percent (26%).



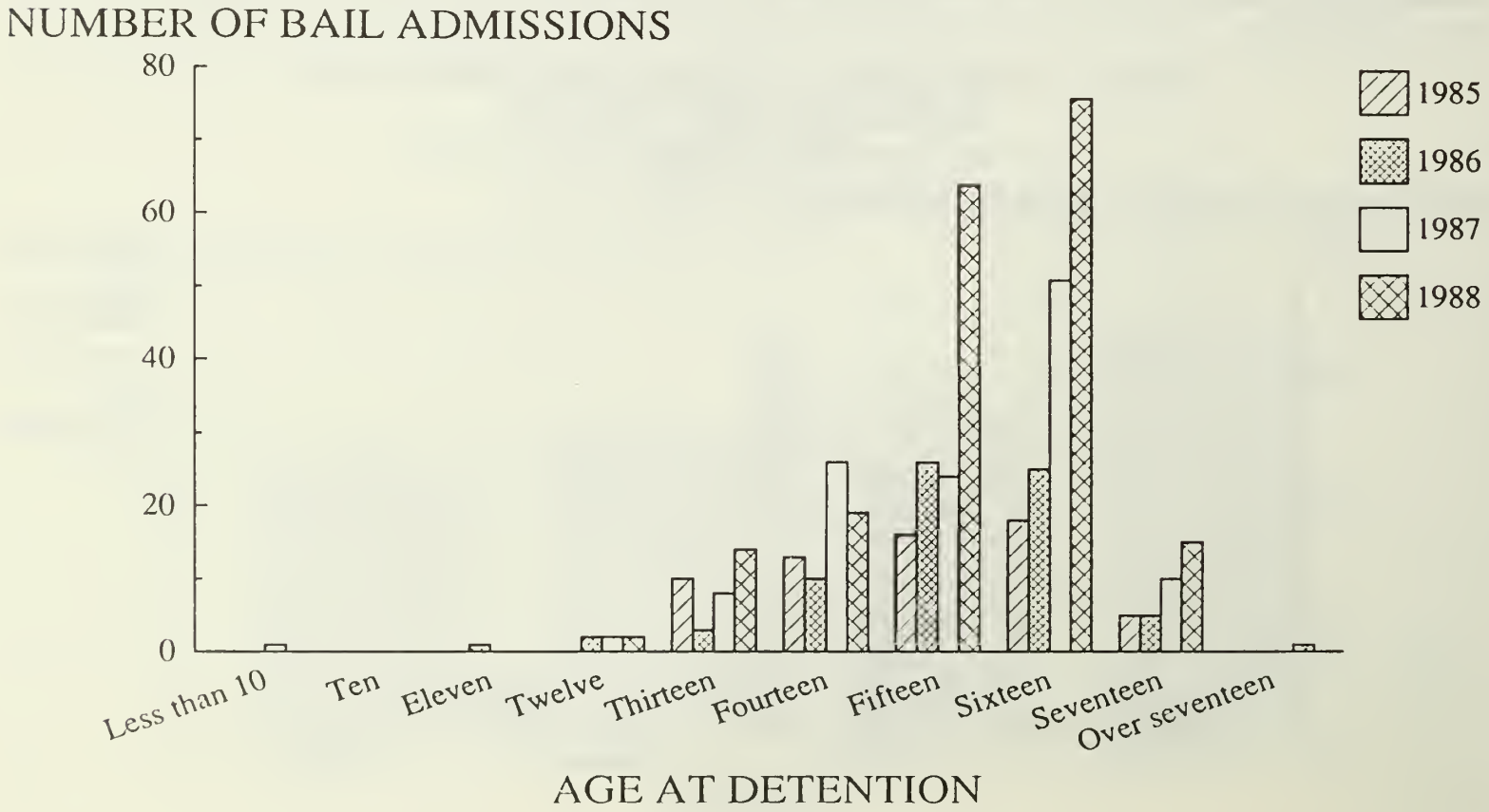
**SEX**: The proportion of females from Dorchester Court has decreased from 1985 to 1988, decreasing from twelve percent of the population in 1985 to only eight percent of the population in 1988. The actual number of female bail admissions in 1985 was equal to the number in 1988. The proportion of males from this court has increased over the four years and the actual number of male admissions has also increased. From 1985 to 1988, the number of male bail admissions from Dorchester Court went from 109 during 1985 to 175 during 1988, an increase of over sixty percent (61%).

**RACE**: The racial proportions of the bail detention admissions from Dorchester Court have changed from 1985 to 1988. In 1985, fifteen percent of the bail detention admissions were white, seventy-eight percent were black, and six percent were Hispanic. These proportions changed to the following for 1988: white youth were seven percent of the admissions, black youth were eighty-two percent, and Hispanic youth were eleven percent. In other words, the proportion of white youth decreased while the proportions of black and Hispanic youth increased. In actual terms, the numbers of white youth decreased by twenty-two percent from 1985 to 1988, black youth increased by sixty percent, and Hispanic youth increased by over one hundred and fifty percent (163%).



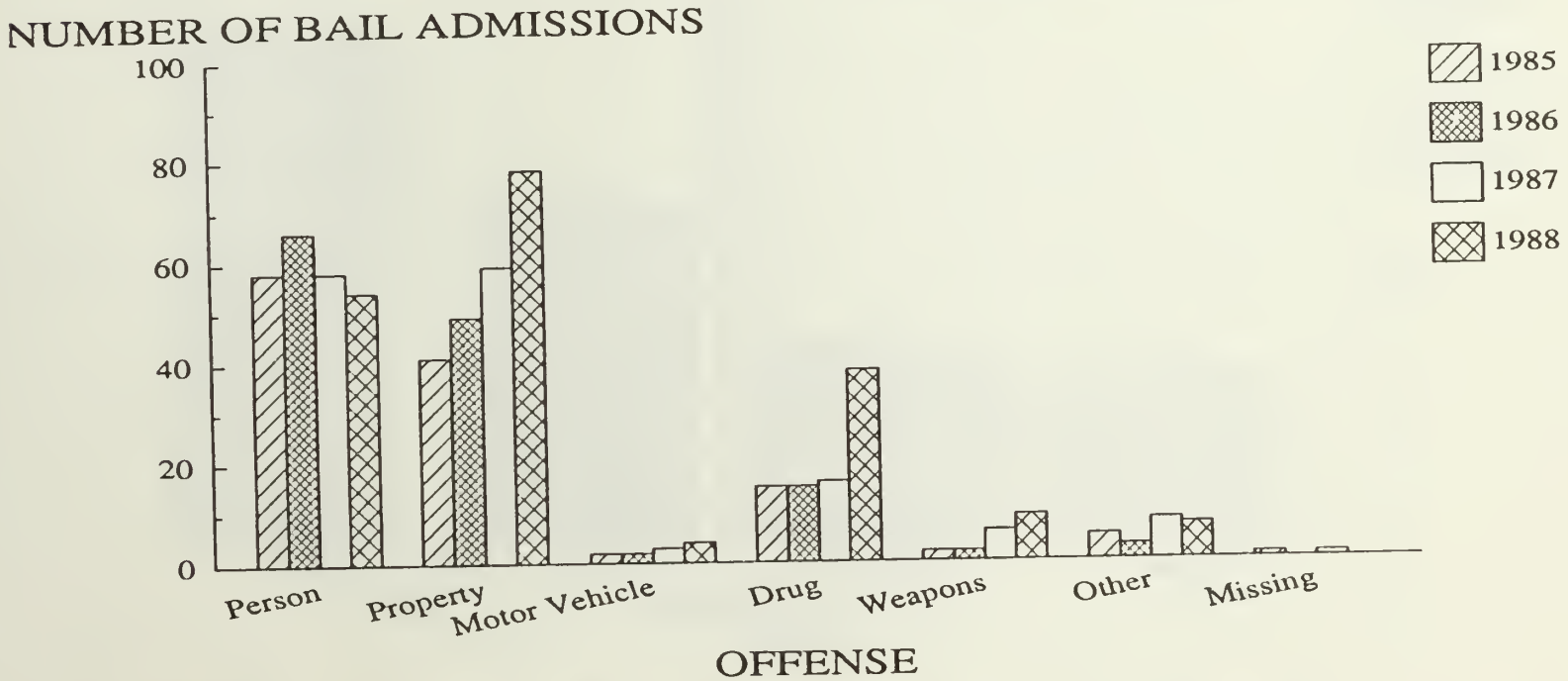
AGE: While there were increases in all age categories but one for detention admissions from Dorchester Court, certain age ranges had some important changes over the four year period. During 1985, thirteen year olds represented eleven percent of the bail detention admissions while during 1988 they represented six percent. Fifteen year olds represented thirty-five percent of the population during 1985 while in 1988 they represented twenty-nine percent. Sixteen year olds represented twenty-nine percent in 1985 and almost forty percent (37%) in 1988. In actual numbers, the largest increase from 1985 to 1988 was for sixteen year olds. In 1985 there were 36 sixteen year old bail admissions from Dorchester Court while in 1988 there were 70 sixteen year olds - an increase of almost one hundred percent (94%).

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AGE
## DORCHESTER COURT
## 1985 - 1988



**OFFENSE**: There were changes in the offenses of the bail admissions from Dorchester Court from 1985 to 1988. During 1985, admissions to the detention system for offenses against the person represented almost half (47%) of the population while in 1988 they represented almost thirty percent (28%). Admissions for offenses against property represented thirty-three percent of the population in 1985 and slightly over forty percent (41%) in 1988. Admissions for drug offenses represented slightly over ten percent (12%) in 1985 and twenty percent in 1988. Bail detention admissions for offenses against the person totaled 58 in 1985 and 54 in 1988 - a decrease of seven percent; property offenders went from 41 in 1985 to 78 in 1988, an increase of almost one hundred percent (90%); finally, drug offenders went from 15 in 1985 to 38 in 1988 - an increase of over one hundred and fifty percent (153%).

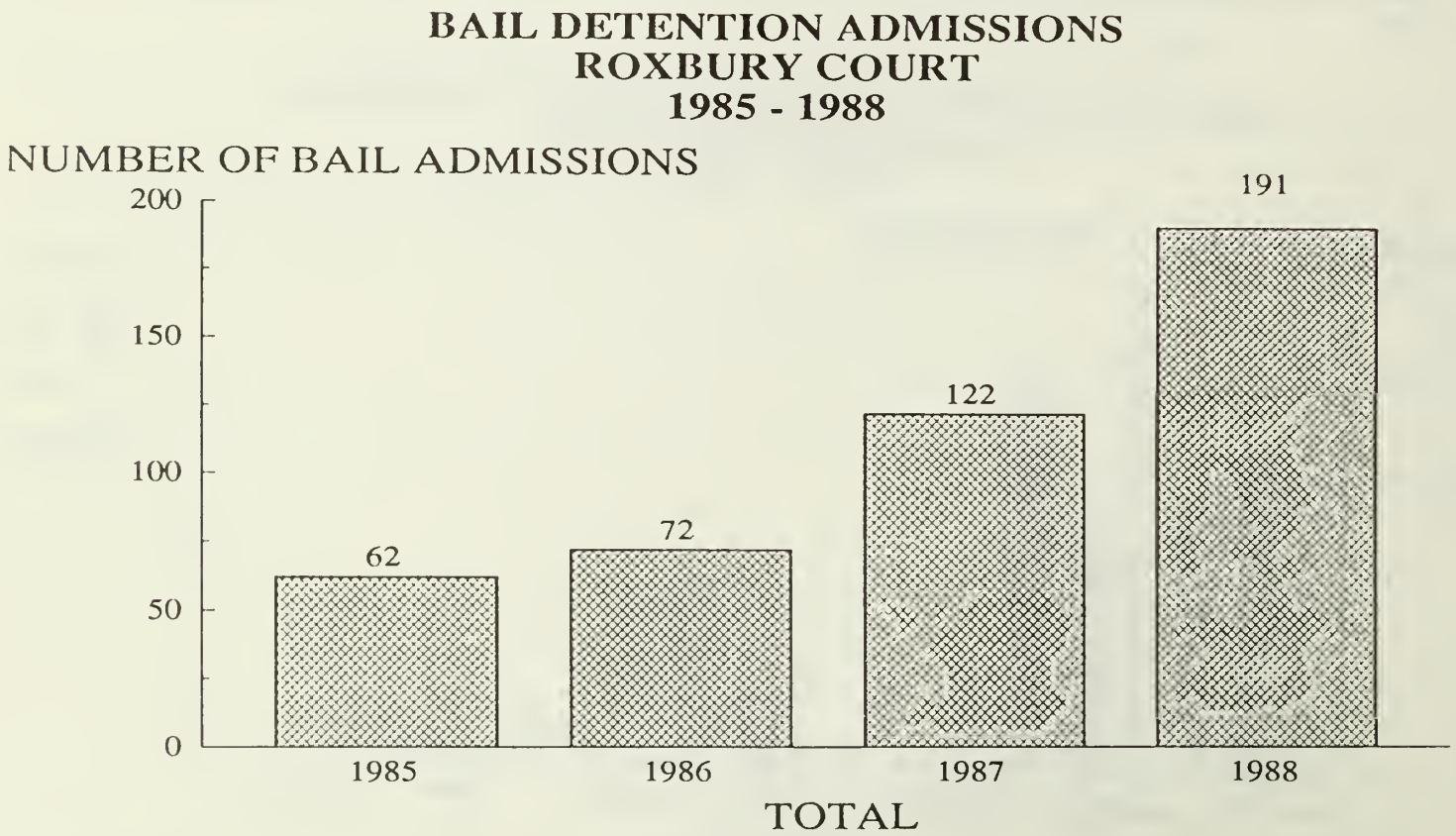
## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
## DORCHESTER COURT
## 1985 - 1988




**BAIL AMOUNT**: All cash bail categories from Dorchester Court showed increases from 1985 to 1988. Admissions from Dorchester Court with bail over five hundred dollars represented ten percent of the population in 1985 while in 1988, they represented almost twenty percent (19%); the total number of admissions with bail over five hundred percent was thirteen in 1985 and thirty five in 1988, an increase of over one hundred and fifty (169%) percent.

# VI. Roxbury Court

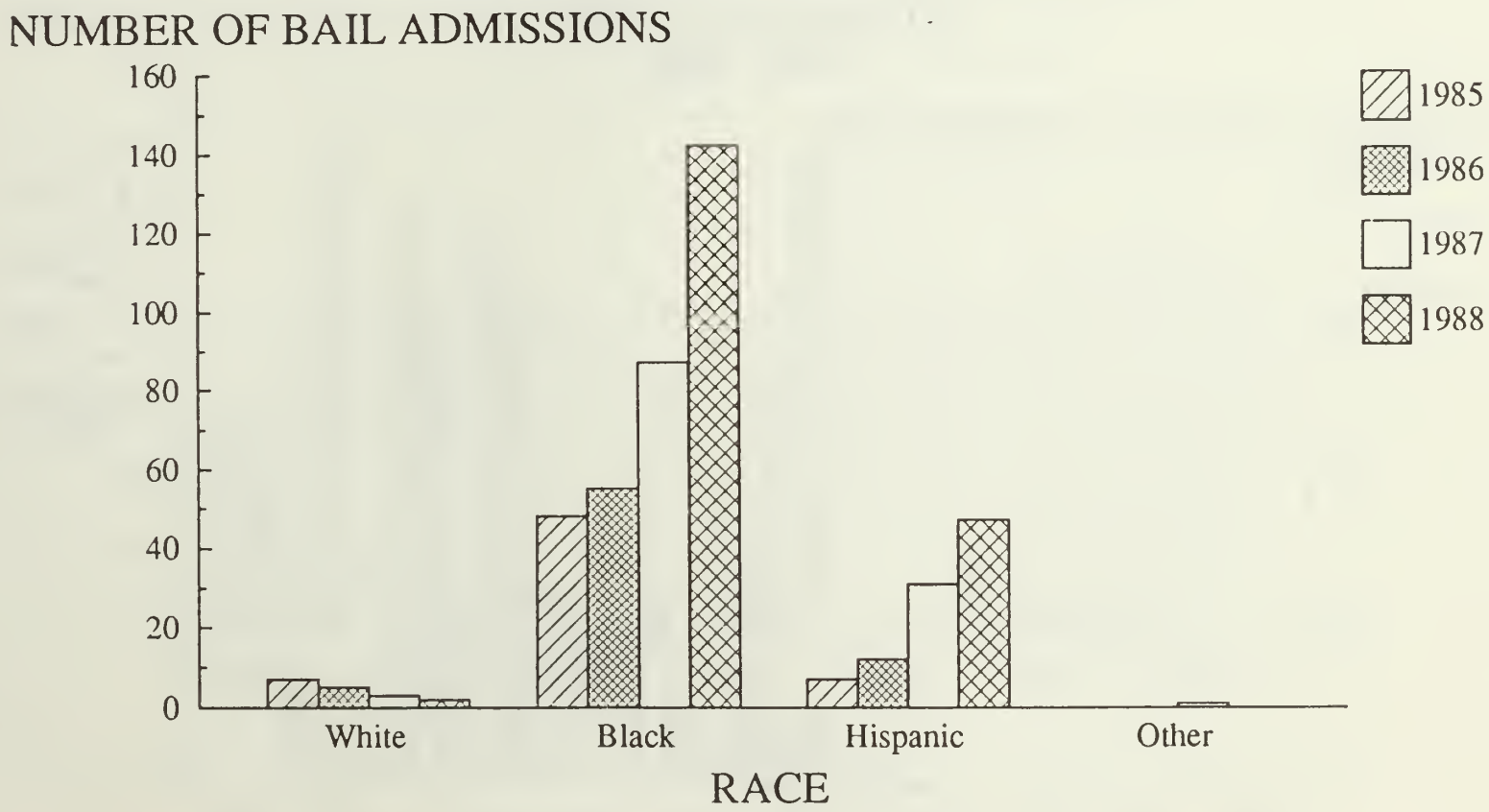
The number of bail detention admissions from the Roxbury Court has shown a constant increase over the four year period from 1985 to 1988. The numbers of admissions was 62 during 1985, 72 during 1986, 122 during 1987, and 191 during 1988. From 1985 to 1988, the admissions from Roxbury Court increased by over two hundred percent (208%). Compared to 1987, the admissions from this court during 1988 increased by almost sixty percent (57%).




SEX: The number of female bail admissions from Roxbury Court went from 3 during 1985 to 12 during 1988, an increase of three hundred percent. Male bail admissions went from 59 in 1985 to 179 in 1988, an increase of two hundred percent (203%).

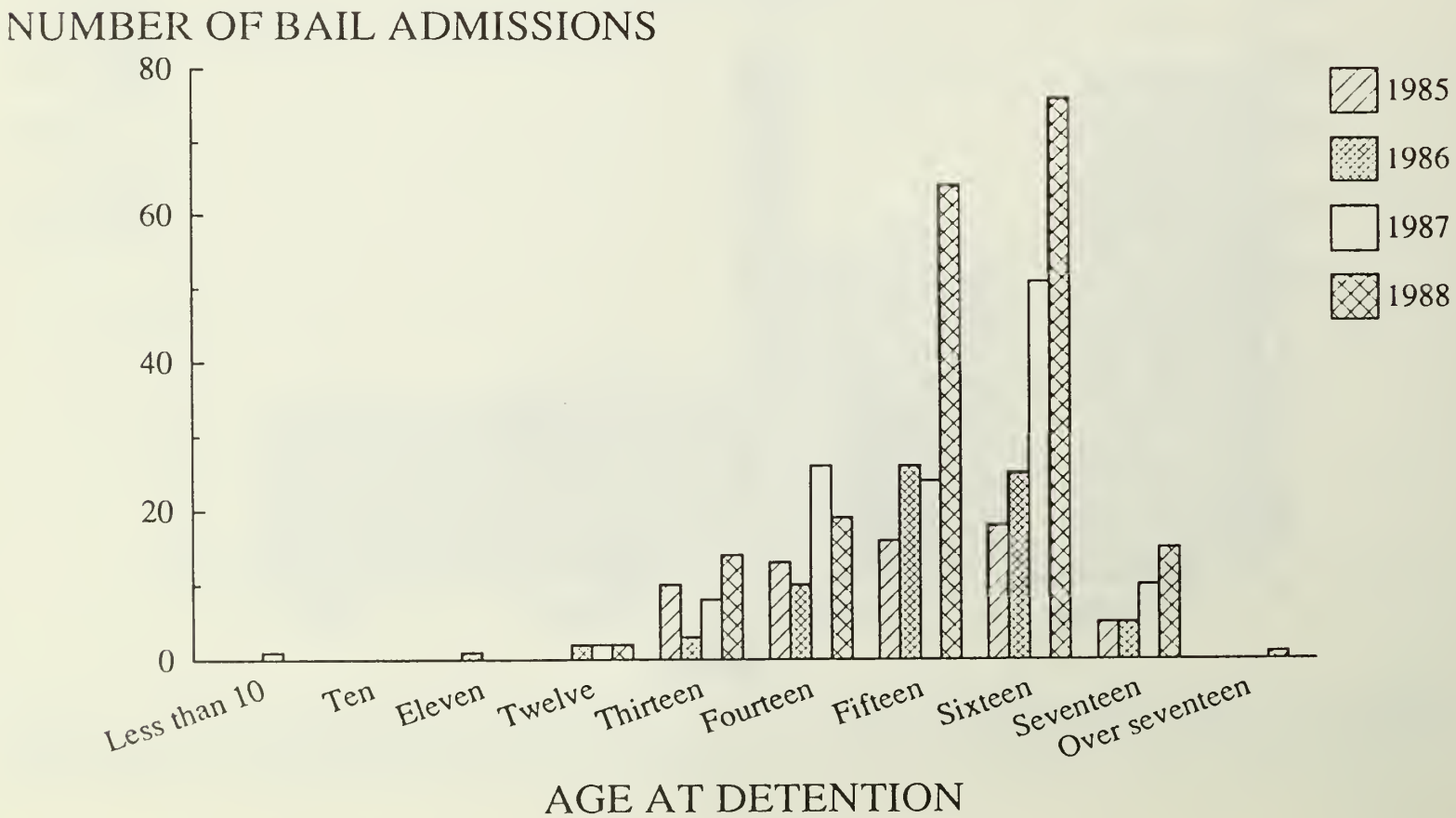
**RACE:** The number of white admissions from Roxbury Court went from seven in 1985 to two in 1988. At the same time the number of black admissions went from 48 in 1985 to 142 in 1988, an increase of almost two hundred percent (196%). Hispanic bail admissions went from 7 in 1985 to 47 in 1988, an increase of over five hundred percent (571%).

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
## ROXBURY COURT
## 1985 - 1988



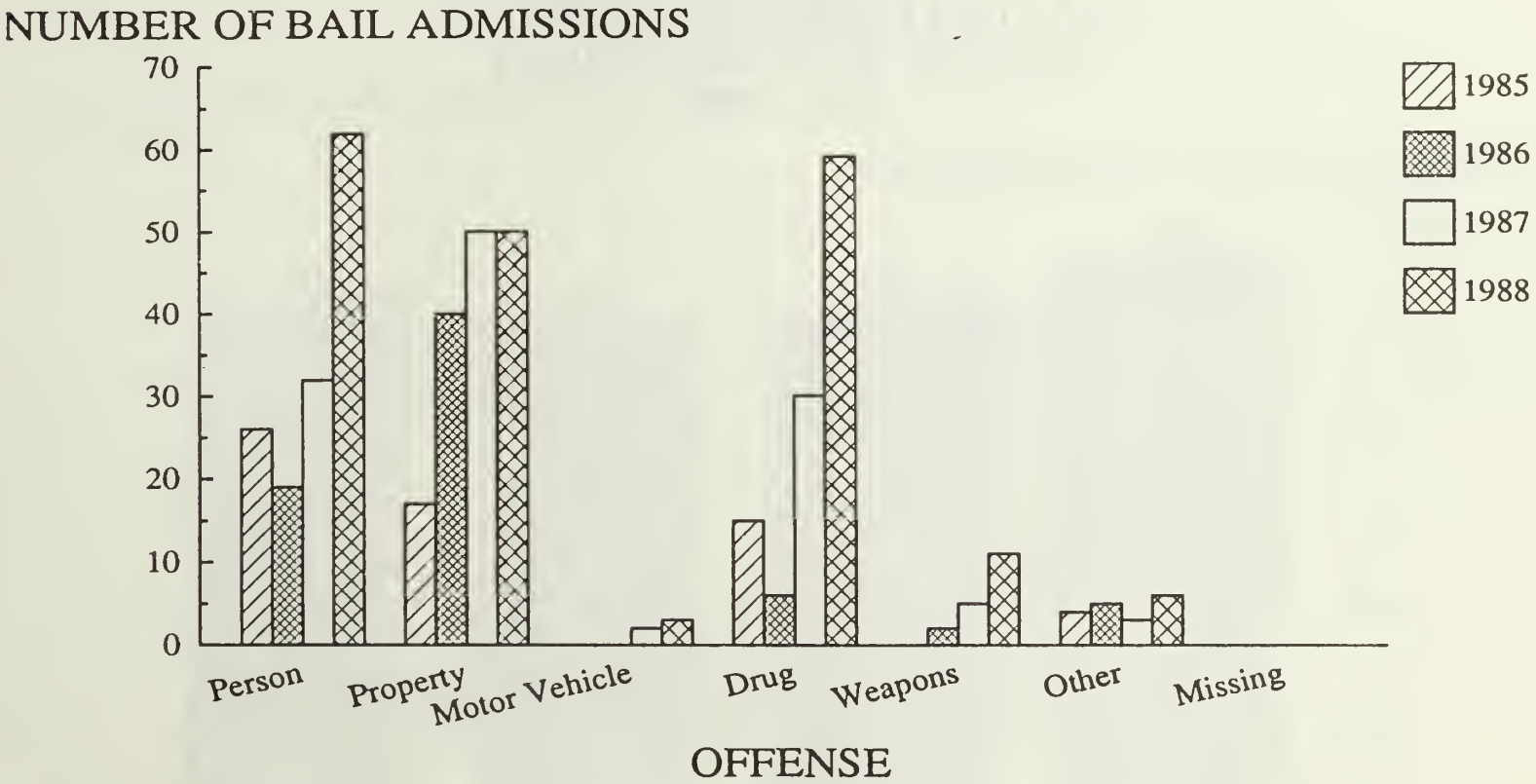
AGE: The proportion of bail admissions from Roxbury Court who were thirteen went from sixteen percent in 1985 to seven percent in 1988 while fourteen year old admissions went from twenty-one percent in 1985 to ten percent in 1988. Fifteen year old admissions went from twenty-six percent in 1985 to thirty-four percent in 1988 while sixteen year old admissions went from twenty-nine percent in 1985 to forty percent in 1988. In actual numbers, the largest increase from 1985 to 1988 was for sixteen year olds. Sixteen year old admissions from Roxbury Court went from eighteen during 1985 to seventy-six in 1988, an increase of over three hundred percent (322%).

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY AGE
## ROXBURY COURT
## 1985 - 1988



**OFFENSE**: The proportions of bail admissions from Roxbury Court for person offenses were slightly over forty percent (42%) in 1985 and almost thirty percent (32%) in 1988. Property offenders remained mostly constant at twenty-seven percent in 1985 and twenty-six percent in 1988; drug offenders represented twenty-four percent in 1985 and thirty-one percent in 1988.

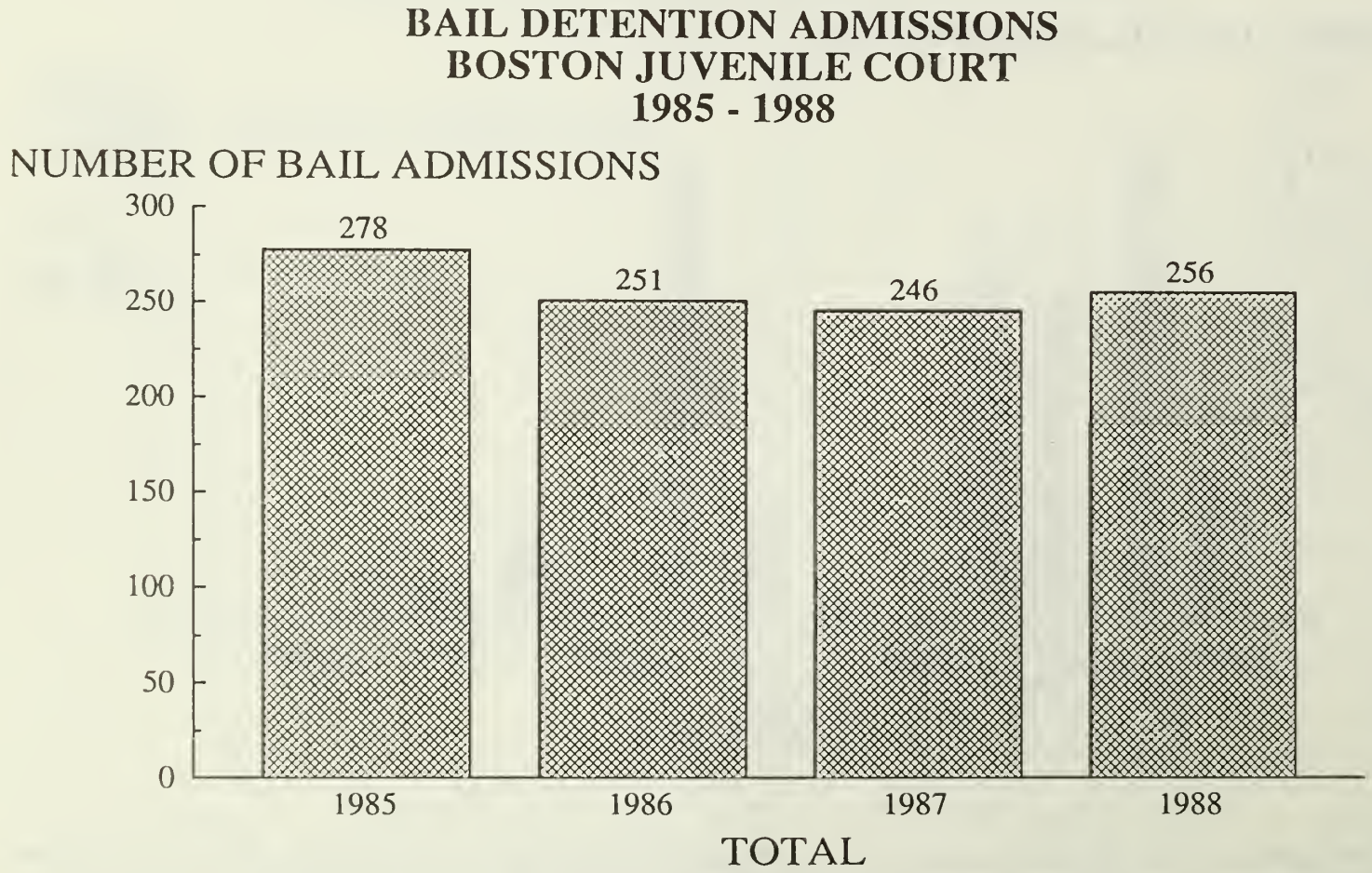
## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
## ROXBURY COURT
## 1985 - 1988



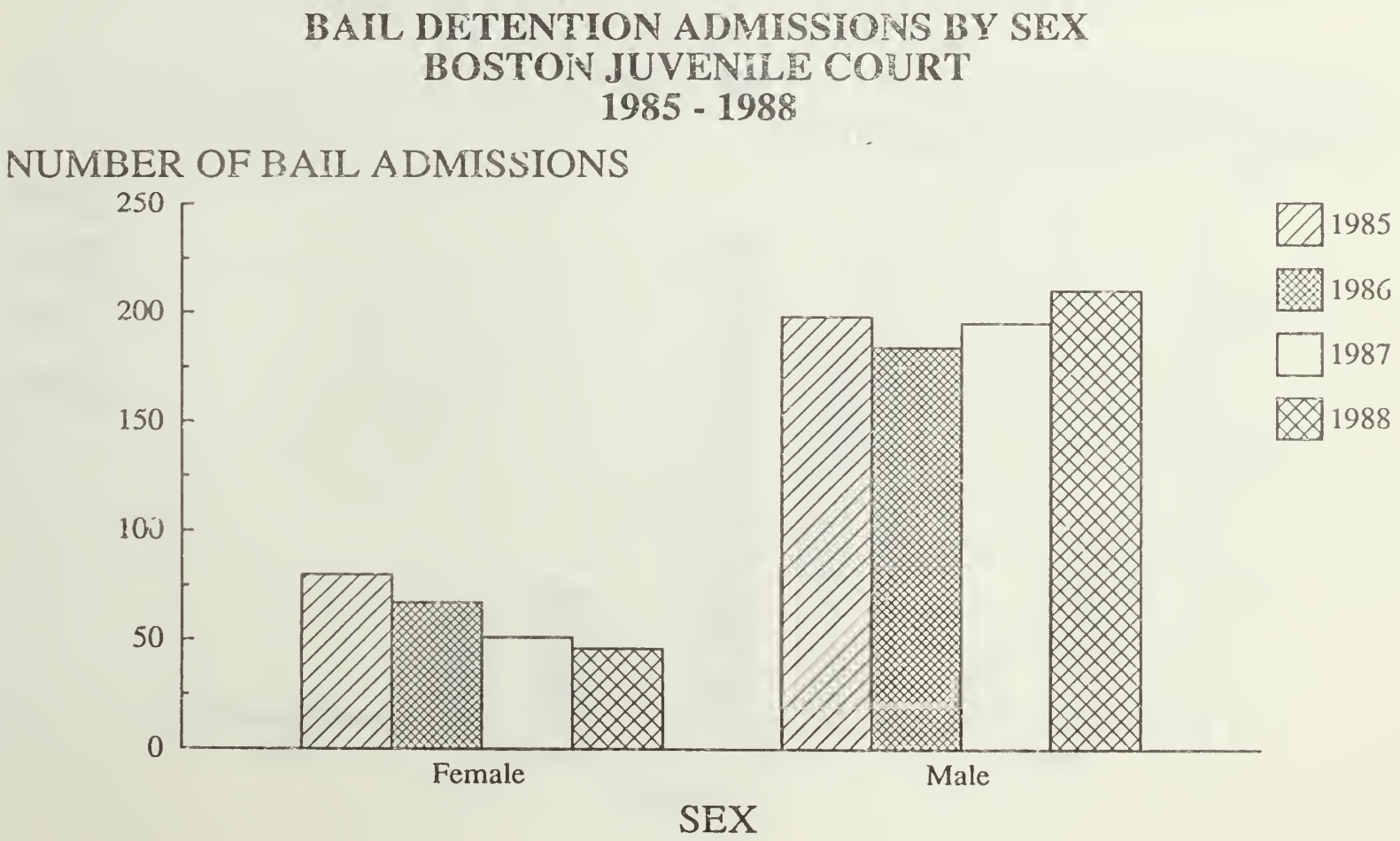

**BAIL AMOUNT**: In 1985, thirty-seven percent of the bail admissions from Roxbury Court had a bail amount of less than one hundred dollars while during 1988, only fourteen percent of the admissions from Roxbury court had a bail of less than one hundred dollars. In 1988, almost seventy-five percent (72%) of the admissions had a bail amount of more than five hundred dollars.

# VII. Boston Juvenile Court

The number of bail detention admissions from Boston Juvenile Court decreased from 1985 to 1986 and 1986 to 1987, but increased from 1987 to 1988; however the highest number of bail detention admissions during the four year period from 1985 to 1988 was during 1985. Compared to 1987, the admissions from this court during 1988 increased by four percent.

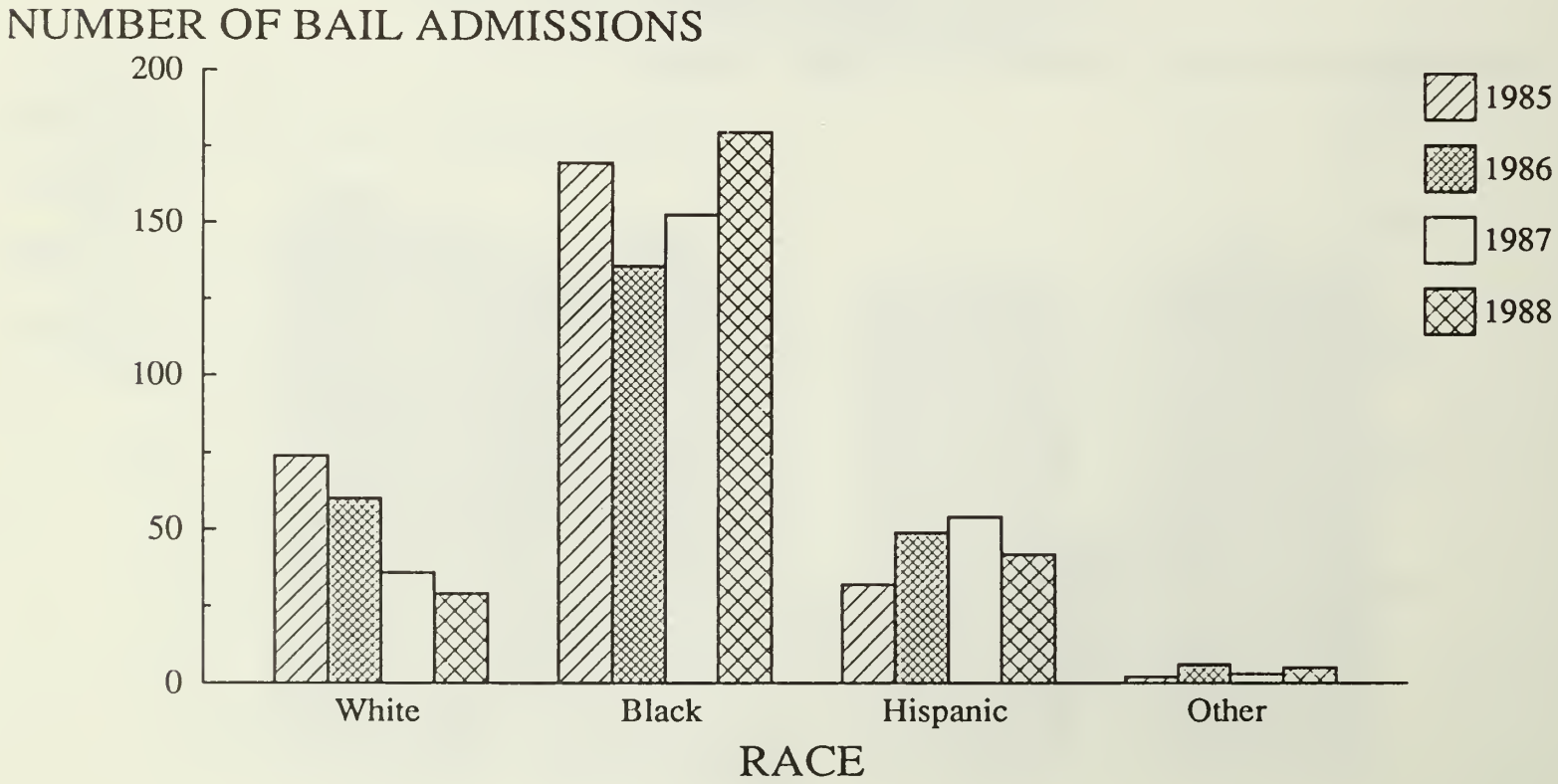


**SEX**: The proportion of female bail admissions from Boston Juvenile Court has decreased from 1985 to 1988, decreasing from twenty-nine percent of the population in 1985 to only eighteen percent of the population in 1988. The number of female bail admissions from the Boston Juvenile Court decreased by 43% from 1985 to 1988 with eighty admissions during 1985 and only forty-six during 1988. The number of male admissions from the Boston Juvenile Court went from 198 in 1985 to 210 in 1988.



RACE: The proportion of white bail detention admissions from Boston Juvenile Court went from almost thirty percent (27%) during 1985 to slightly over ten percent (11%) during 1988; the number went from 74 during 1985 to 29 during 1988, a decrease of sixty-one percent. Black admissions went from sixty-one percent during 1985 to seventy percent during 1988 and Hispanic admissions went from twelve percent during 1985 to sixteen percent during 1988.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS BY RACE
## BOSTON JUVENILE COURT
## 1985 - 1988



**AGE**: There were not significant changes in the age categories from 1985 to 1988. There were slight increases in the lower age ranges (younger than fourteen years old) and slight decreases in the older age ranges (older than fourteen).

**OFFENSE**: The number of bail admissions from Boston Juvenile Court for offenses against the person were fairly constant (93 in 1985 compared to 92 in 1988), person offenders decreased slightly (from 117 in 1985 to 103 in 1988), and drug offenders demonstrated the largest increase (from 11 in 1985 to 25 in 1988).

**BAIL AMOUNT**: Consistent with other courts, the number and proportion of bail admissions receiving a bail amount of less than one hundred dollars decreased while the number and proportion of bail admissions receiving a bail amount of more than five hundred dollars increased.

# ANALYSIS OF PRETRIAL DETENTION ADMISSIONS, 1989

# MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES


**Edward J. Loughran, Commissioner**

Lawrence T. Williams
**Assistant Commissioner**



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**Bureau of Planning, Research, and Systems**


**June, 1990**


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| | |
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| Central Region | Delores Marchese |
| Northeast Region | Debbie Jellison |
| Southeast Region | Janet Gabourel |
| Metro Region | Glenda Green |

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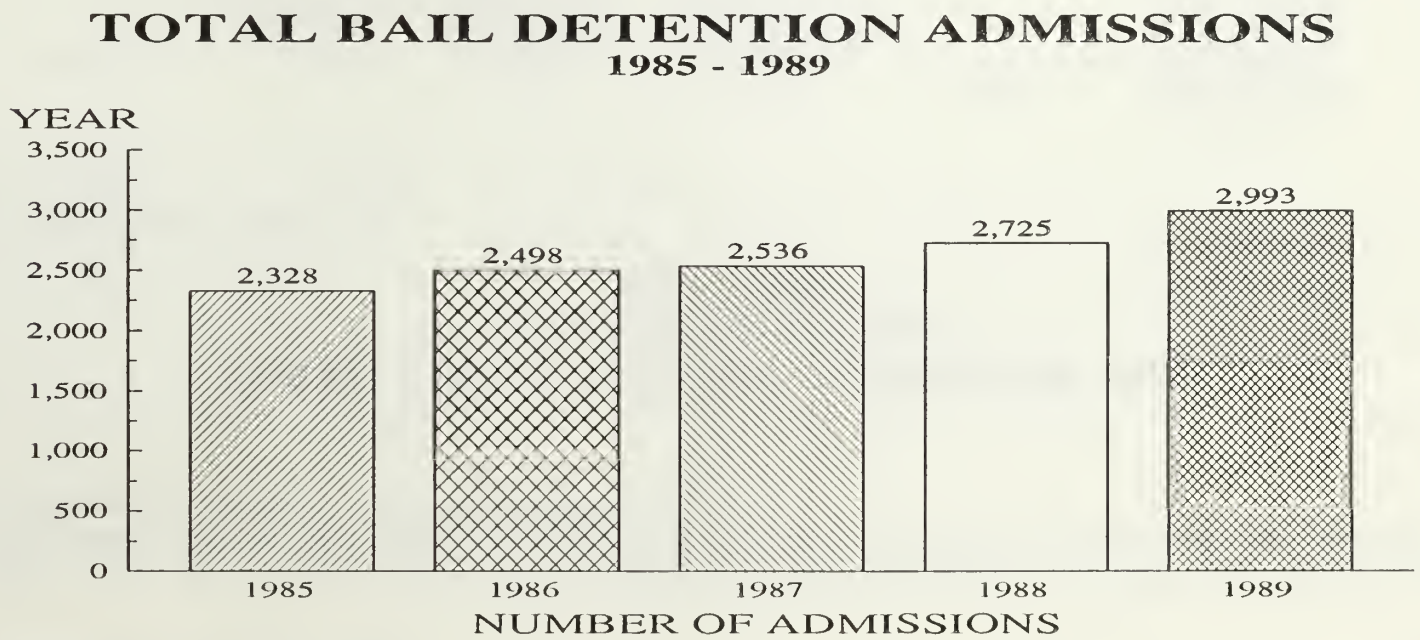
# INTRODUCTION

This report is the second of an annual analysis of youth on bail status who were held in pretrial detention produced by the Bureau of Planning, Research, and Systems. This particular report concerns those youth on bail held in detention during 1989. This data is collected and coded at the time of a youth's admissions into the detention system and entered into the Department of Youth Services' automated client tracking system.

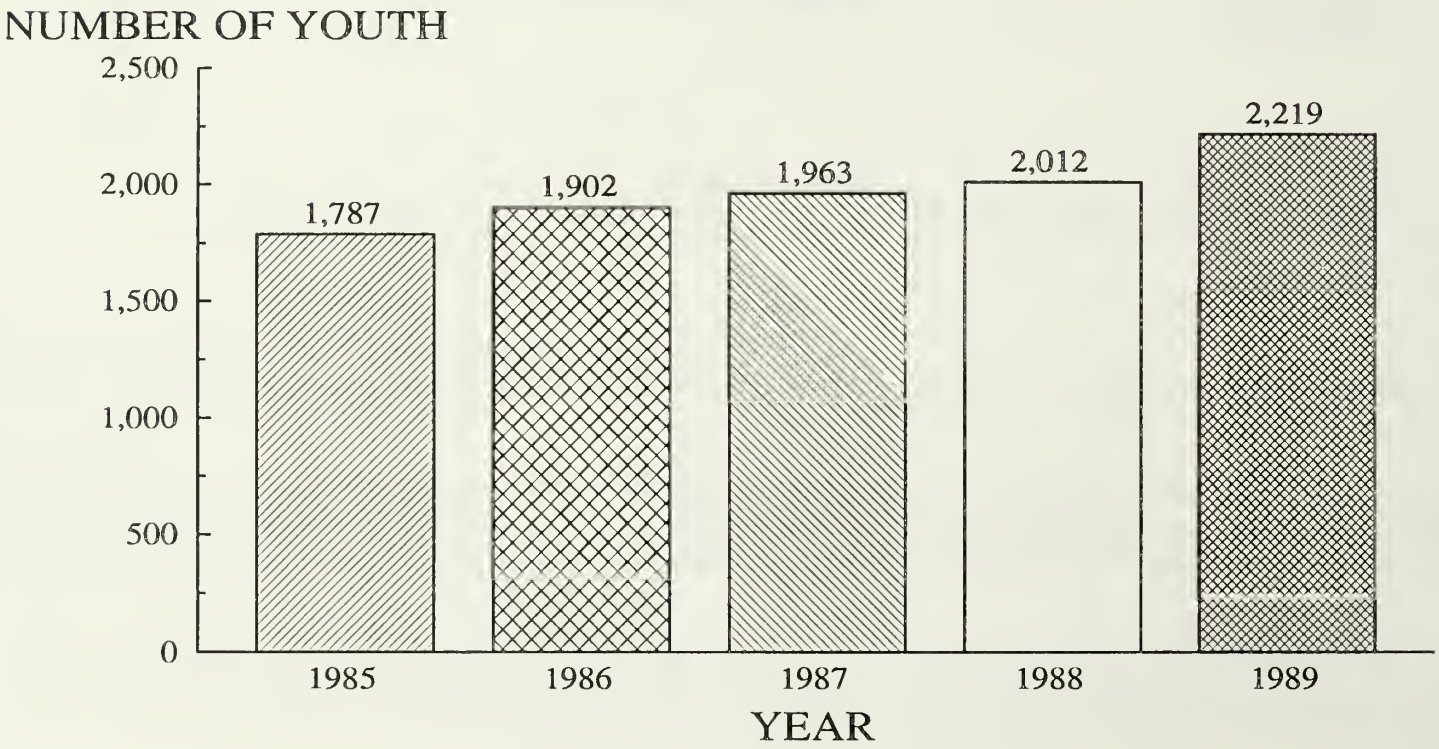
The report is divided into four sections. Section I discusses recent trends in pretrial detention admissions by comparing 1989 data to the previous four years. Section II looks at 1989 detention admissions, highlighting any differences between regions and across demographic variables. Section III focuses on regional descriptions of the bail population while Section IV looks at court information.

There were 2,993 bail admissions into the detention system of the Department of Youth Services during 1989. This figure represents an increase of 9.8% or 267 admissions from 1988.



Since many youth are admitted into the detention system more than once during a year, 2,993 does not represent the total number of youth admitted into the detention system. During 1989, there were 2,219 youth admitted into the detention system which represents an increase of 10% or 207 youth compared to 1988.

## BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS
### NUMBER OF YOUTH
### 1985 - 1989



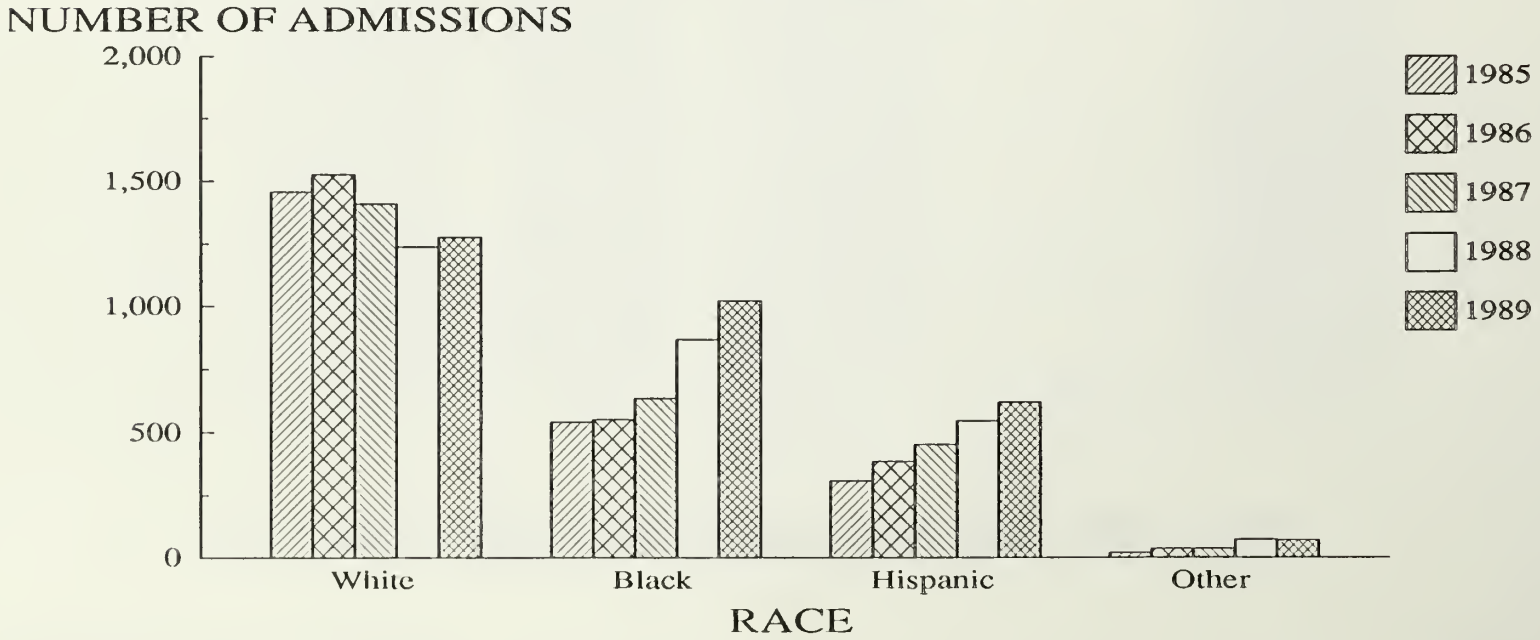
# SECTION I - CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1985 - 1989

## SECTION I. CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1985 - 1989

**SEX:** The number of bail admissions during 1989 who were female was approximately equal to the 1988 total (451 vs. 457). Compared to 1988, the number of bail admissions who were male increased by twelve percent.

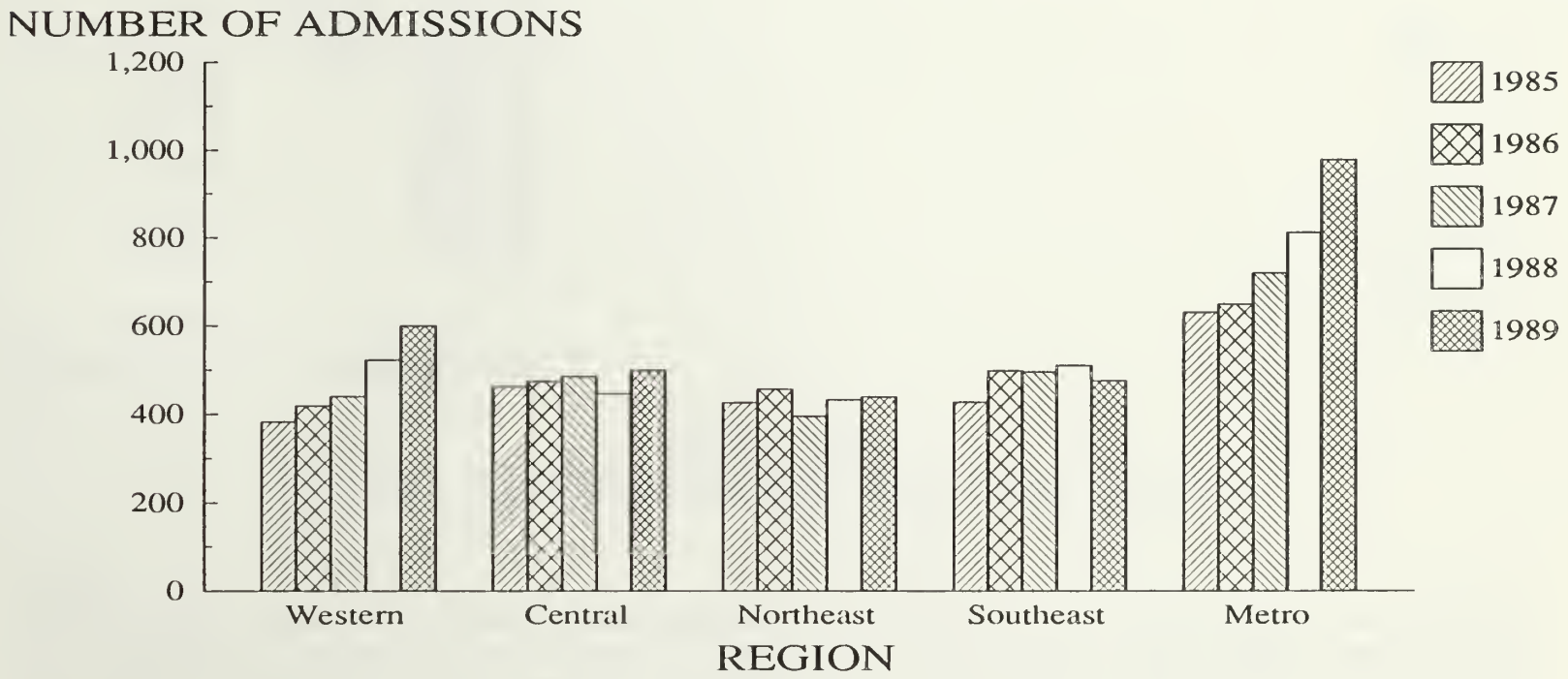
**RACE:** The racial proportion of bail admissions has changed significantly over the past five years. In 1985, white youth represented 63% of the bail population, black youth represented 23% and Hispanic youth represented 13% while in 1989, white youth represented 43%, black youth represented 34%, and Hispanic youth represented 21% of the bail admissions. Compared to 1988, bail admissions for white youth increased by three percent, admissions for black youth increased by eighteen percent, and admissions for Hispanic youth increased by fourteen percent.

### BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
**1985 - 1989**



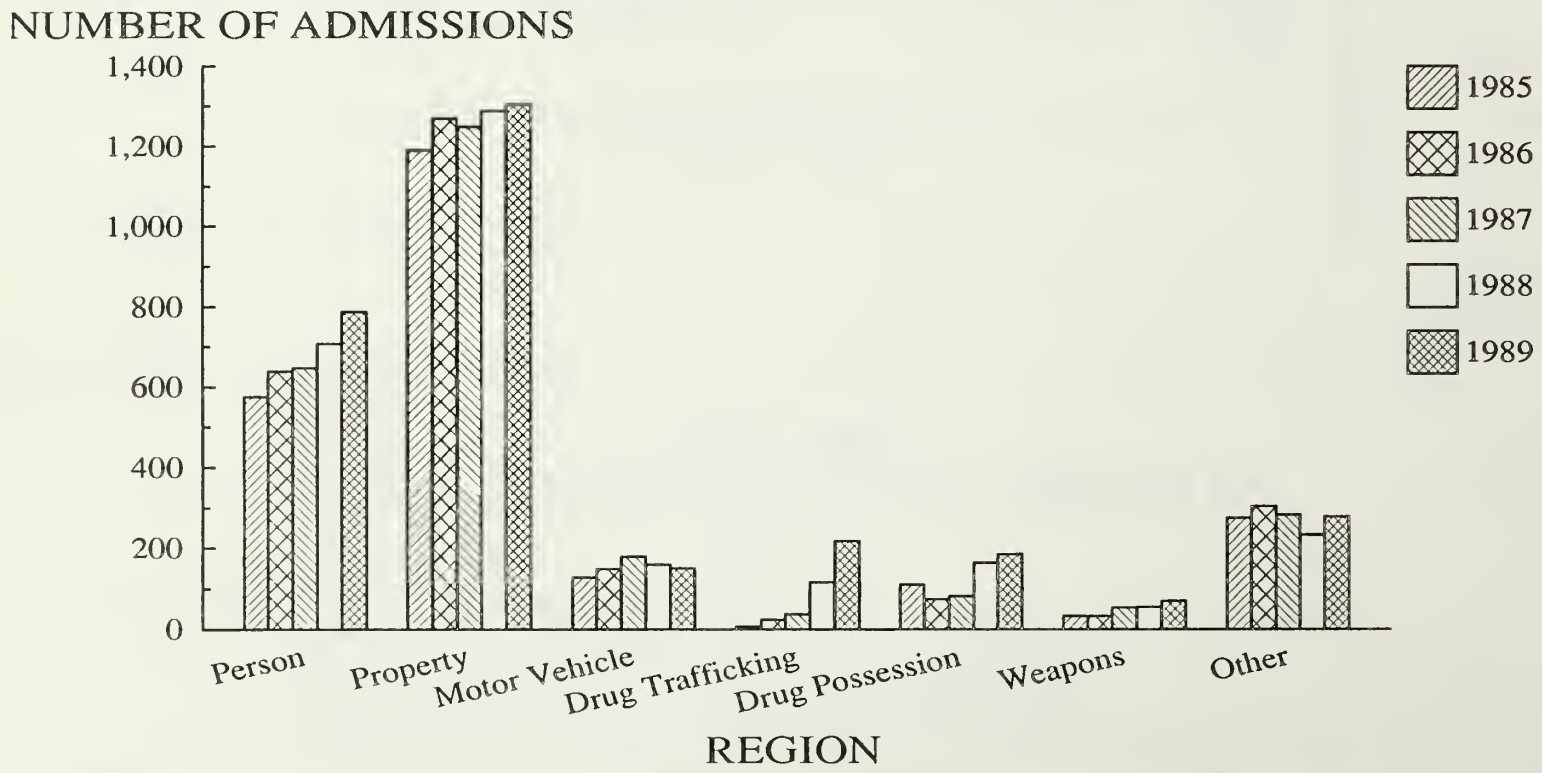
**REGION:** In each of the past five years the Metro Region has consistently had the highest number of bail admissions of any region. However, since 1985 the region with the largest percentage increase in bail admissions is the Western Region which has experienced a 57% increase in their bail admissions from 1985 to 1989. The Southeast Region is the only region who experienced a decrease in bail admissions from 1988 to 1989 (down seven percent). The Northeast Region experienced a 2% increase over 1988, the Central Region experienced a twelve percent increase, the Western Region had a fifteen percent increase, and the Metro Region had a twenty percent increase over 1988.

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY REGION
### 1985 - 1989



**OFFENSE:** There was an increase in each offense category from 1988 to 1989 with the exception of motor vehicle offenses. Person offenses increased by eleven percent, property offenses increased by one percent, and weapons offenses increased by 27%. The offense category with the largest increase from 1988 was drug trafficking/distribution where there was an increase of 88% from 1988 while the remainder of the drug offenses increased by thirteen percent. Since 1985, the offenses with the largest percentage increases were drug distribution offenses (from 8 to 218), other drug offenses (110 to 185), and weapons offenses (33 to 70).

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
### 1985 - 1989



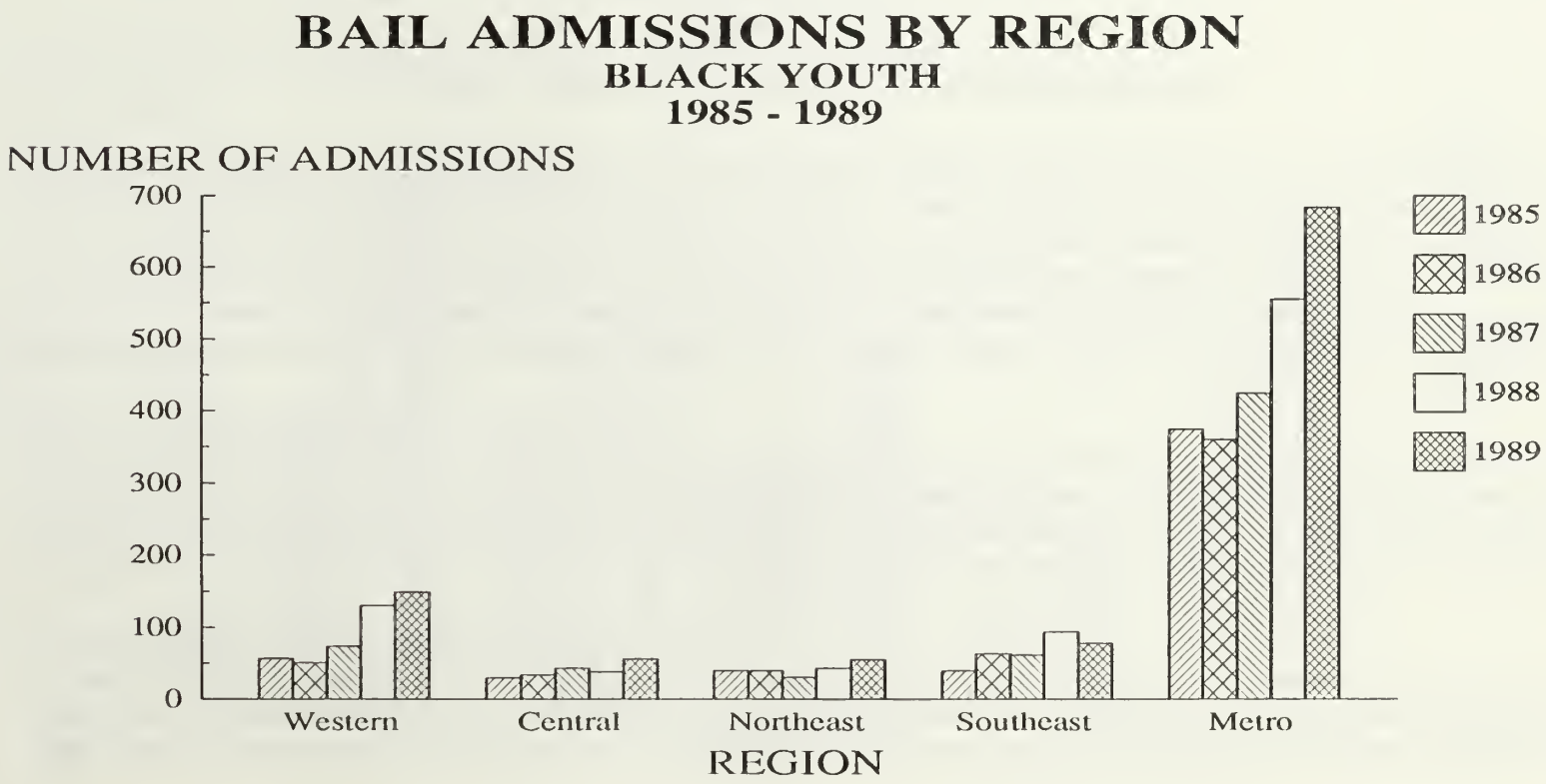
# SECTION II - SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE DETENTION POPULATION

Section I outlined the changes in the bail admission population from 1985 to 1988. The two most significant changes in 1989, as in 1988, were the changes in the racial distribution of the bail population and the dramatic increase in admissions for drug offenses. In this section, further information is provided on these two trends.

Black bail admissions increased by almost ninety percent from 1985 to 1989 and Hispanic bail admissions doubled during the same time period. In order to provide more information on these populations, this section describes these two populations in more detail. Finally, Section I documented a significant increase in bail admissions for drug offenses. This population will also be described in greater detail in this section of the report.

## A. BLACK BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS: 1985 - 1989

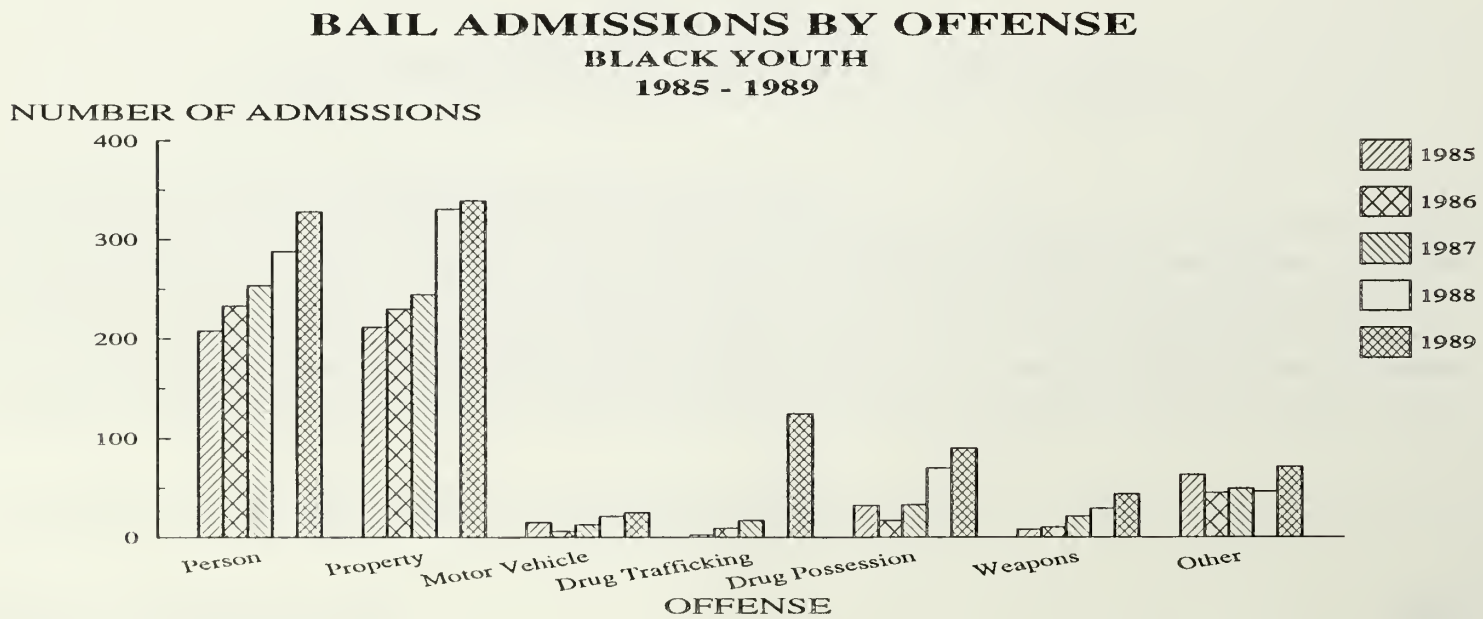
**REGION:** The Metro Boston Region has consistently had the highest proportion of bail admissions who were black compared to the other regions of the Department. However, there were significant changes in the numbers of bail admissions who were black in the other regions of the Department. From 1985 to 1988, the Western Region has seen almost a tripling (161%) of the black bail admissions from 57 in 1985 to 149 in 1989. The Southeast Region has seen almost a doubling (95%) of their bail admissions who were black, from 40 in 1985 to 78 in 1989. The increases for the other regions is as follows: Central Region - +87%, the Metro Region - +82%, and the Northeast Region - +38%. From 1988 to 1989, all regions with the exception of the Southeast Region showed increases in the number of bail admissions who were black.



**SEX:** The number of black bail admissions who were males has increased faster than those who were female. Since 1985, female black admissions have increased by sixty percent while male black admissions have increased by ninety-five percent. From 1988 to 1989, the largest percentage increase (+22%) was for female black bail admissions (129 to 157). At the same time, black male bail admissions increased by eighteen percent (732 to 865).

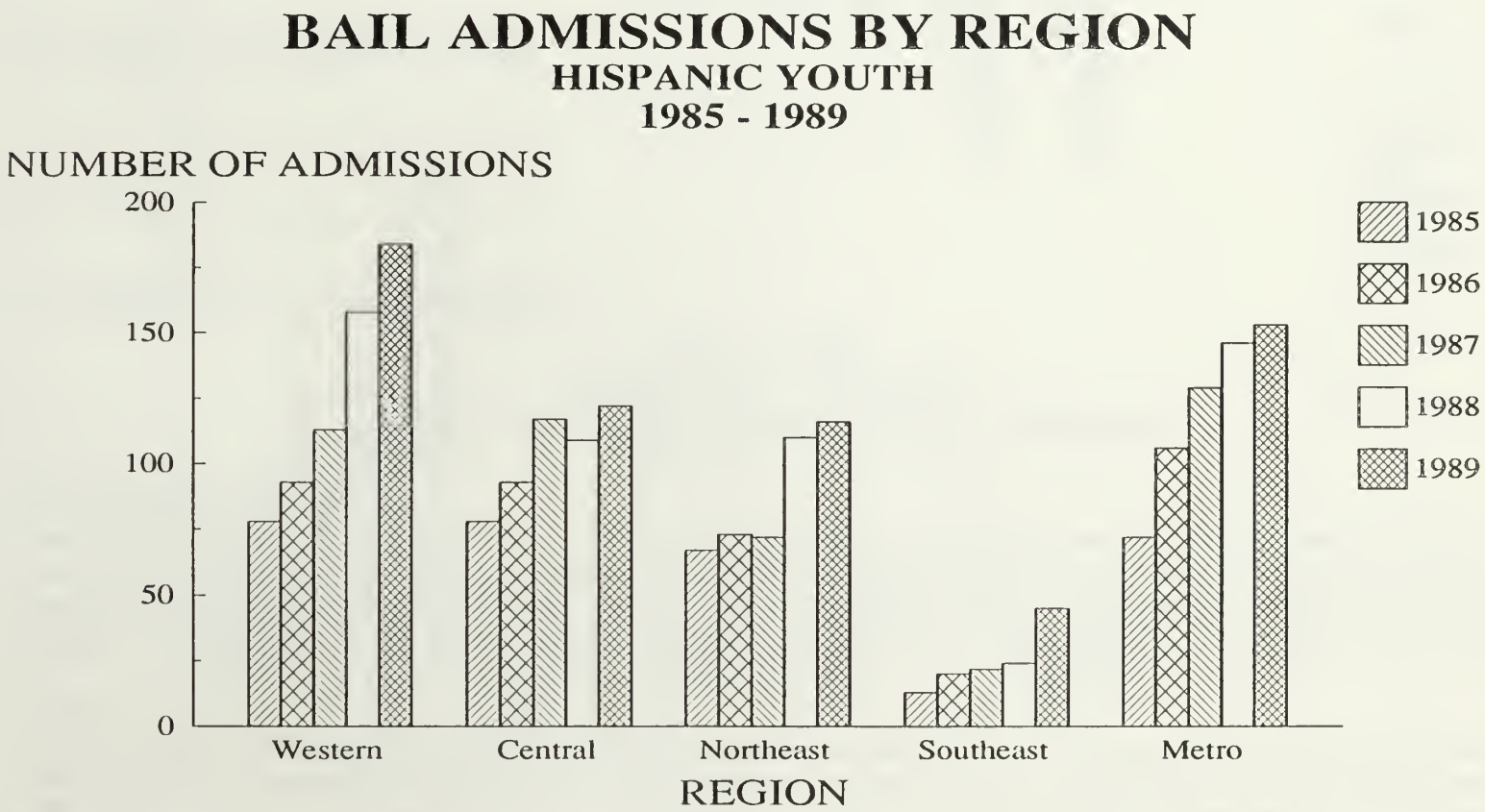
**AGE:** All age ranges have shown an increase from 1985 to 1989 for black bail admissions. The age categories with the largest increases have been eleven year old admissions where there was a six-fold increase (from 3 in 1985 to 18 in 1989) and fifteen year old admissions where there was more than a two-fold increase in the numbers (from 148 in 1985 to 307 in 1989). From 1988 to 1989, the age categories with the largest increases at thirty percent were fourteen year olds who increased from 159 to 207, and fifteen year olds who increased from 237 to 307.

**OFFENSE:** From 1985 to 1989, all offense categories have shown an increase for black bail admissions. The largest increases have been seen for drug offenses which increased by more than five hundred percent (532%; from 34 in 1985 to 215 in 1989), drug trafficking offenses which increased from 2 in 1985 to 125 in 1989, and weapons offenses which increased more than four hundred percent (450%; from 8 in 1985 to 44 in 1989). From 1988 to 1989, the largest percentage changes were seen in black admissions for all drug offenses where there was a fifty percent increase (48%; 145 to 215), drug trafficking offenses where there was close to a seventy percent increase (67%; 75 to 125), and weapons offenses where there was a fifty-two percent increase (29 to 44).



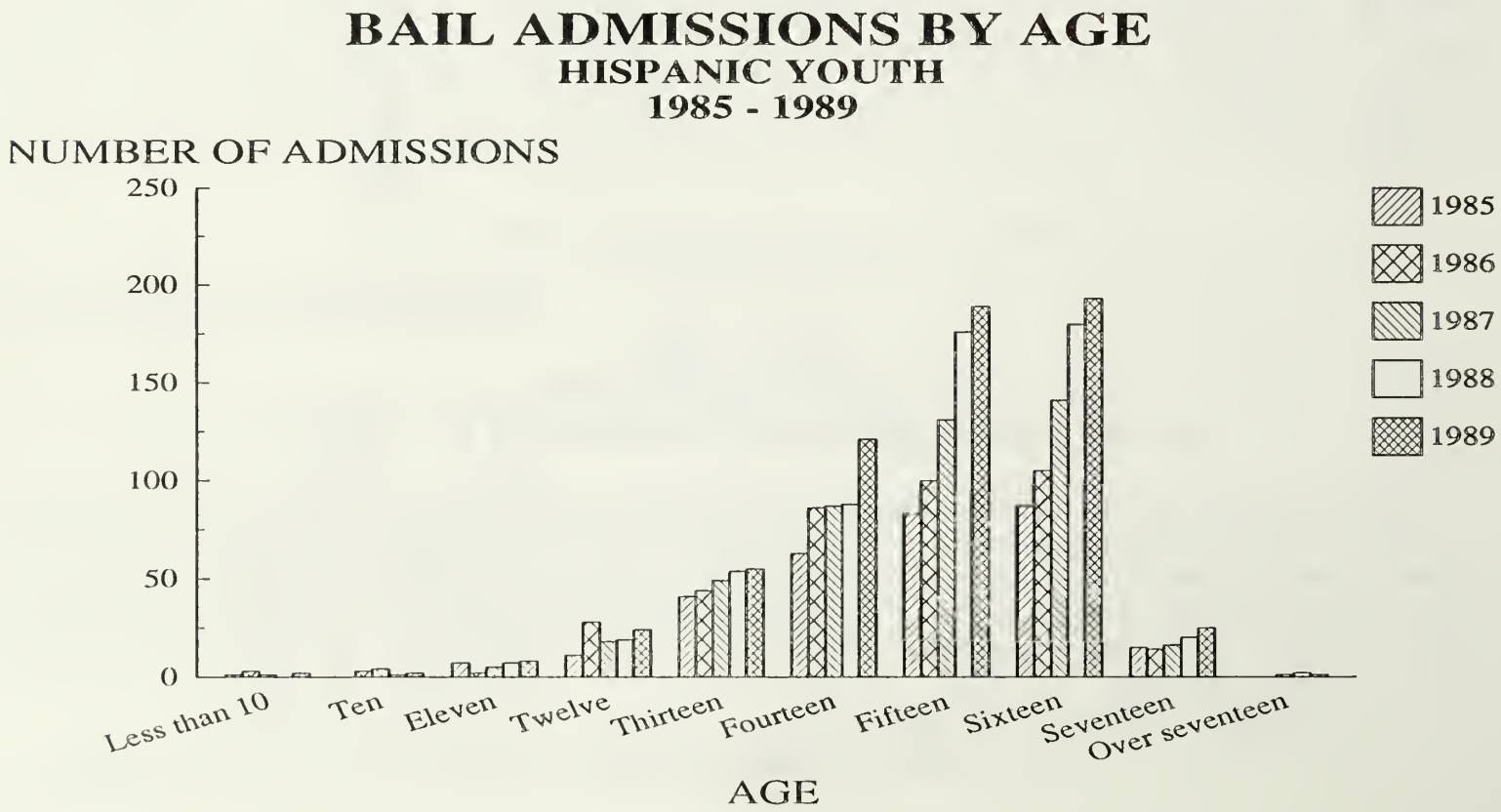
## B. HISPANIC BAIL DETENTION ADMISSIONS 1985 - 1989

**REGION:** All regions have experienced increases in the number of bail admissions who were Hispanic from 1985 to 1989. The greatest increases came in the Southeast Region where the number of bail admissions who were Hispanic more than tripled (246%, 13 to 45), the Western Region where the number more than doubled (136%, 78 to 184), and the Metro Region where the number also more than doubled (113%, 72 to 153). From 1988 to 1989, all regions experienced an increase in their number of Hispanic bail admissions with the Southeast Region showing the largest increase of almost ninety percent (88%, 24 to 45).



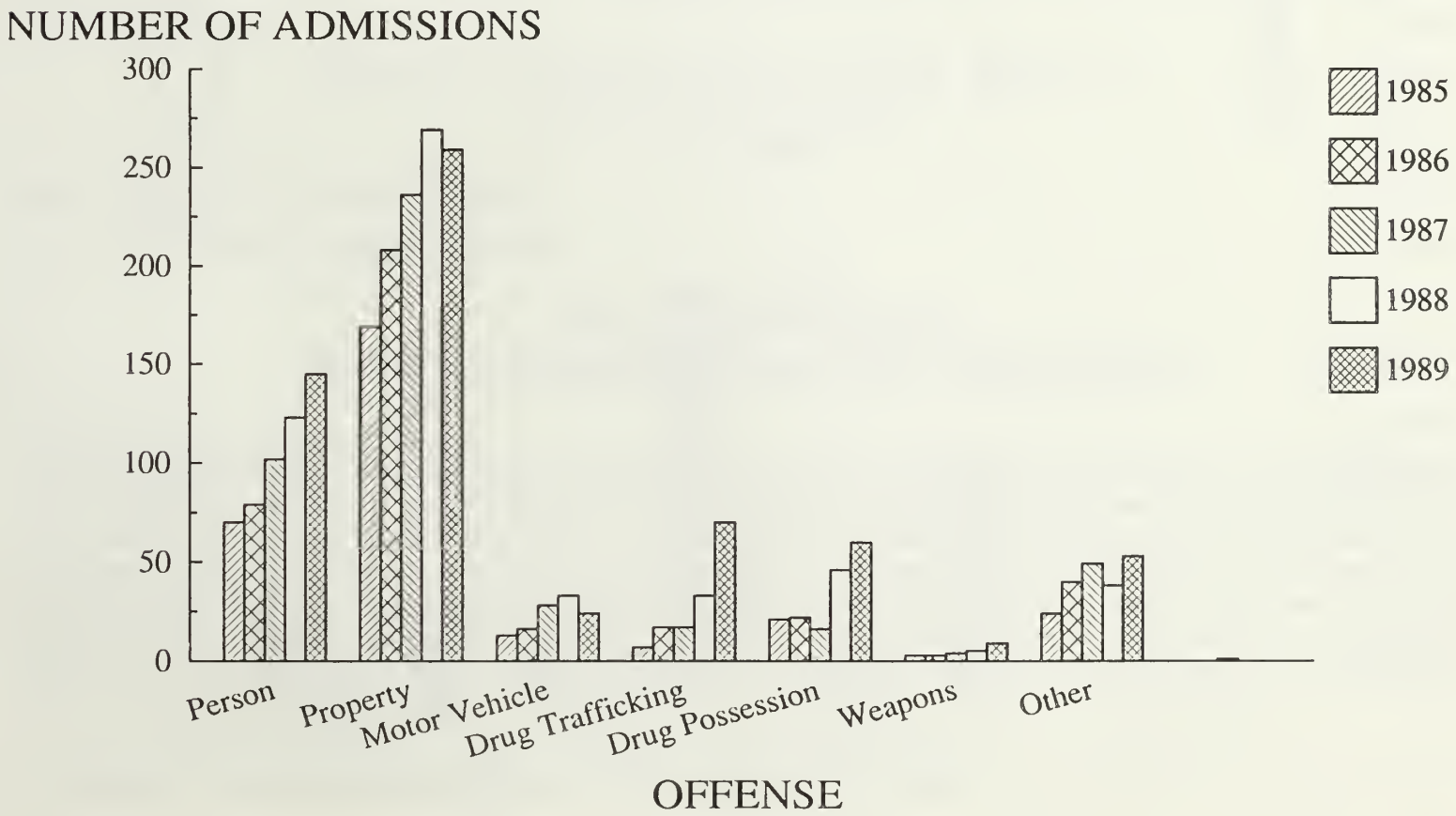
**SEX:** The number of male Hispanic admissions increased faster than female Hispanic admissions. Bail admissions who were male and Hispanic more than doubled (110%, 269 to 564) while bail admissions who were female increased almost fifty percent (44%, 39 to 56). From 1988 to 1989, there were slight increases for both male (14%) and female (8%) bail admissions who were Hispanic.

**AGE:** All age categories showed an increase from 1985 to 1989 for Hispanic bail admissions. The largest increases during this time period came in the fifteen year olds who increased by 128% (83 to 189), sixteen year olds who increased by 122% (87 to 193), and twelve year olds who increased by 118% (11 to 24). From 1988 to 1989, the two age categories with the largest increases were fourteen year olds who increased by almost forty percent (38%, 88 to 121) and seventeen year olds who increased by twenty-five percent (180 to 193).



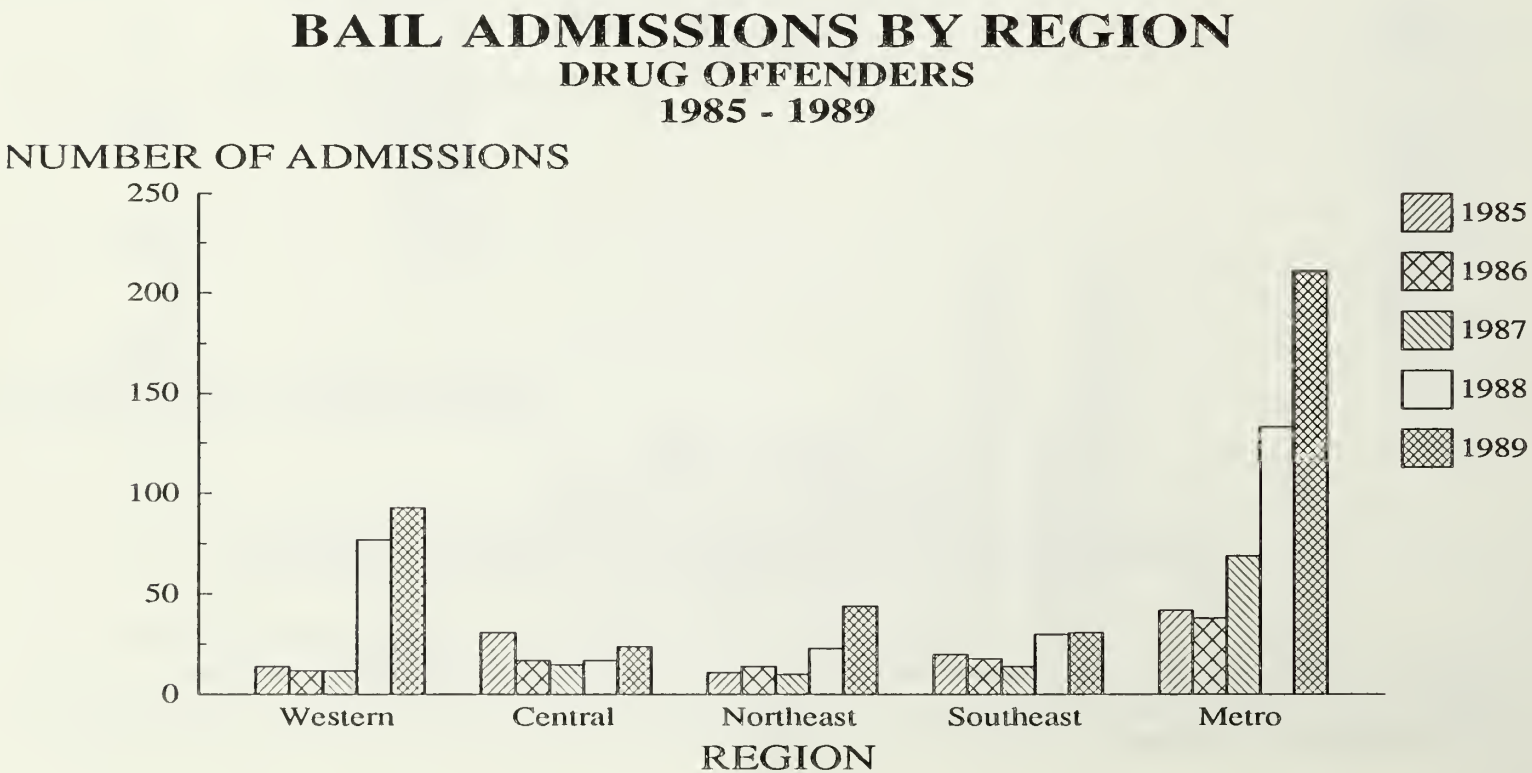
**OFFENSE:** All offense categories showed increases from 1985 to 1989 for Hispanic bail admissions. The largest increases came for drug offenses which increased more than quadrupled (364%, from 28 to 130) and drug trafficking offenses which increased by a factor of ten (900%, from 7 to 70). From 1988 to 1989, the largest increases were for drug offenses (65%, from 79 to 130) including drug trafficking offenses which more than doubled (112%, from 33 to 70).

# BAIL ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
## HISPANIC YOUTH
## 1985 - 1989



## C. BAIL ADMISSIONS FOR DRUG OFFENSES: 1985 - 1989

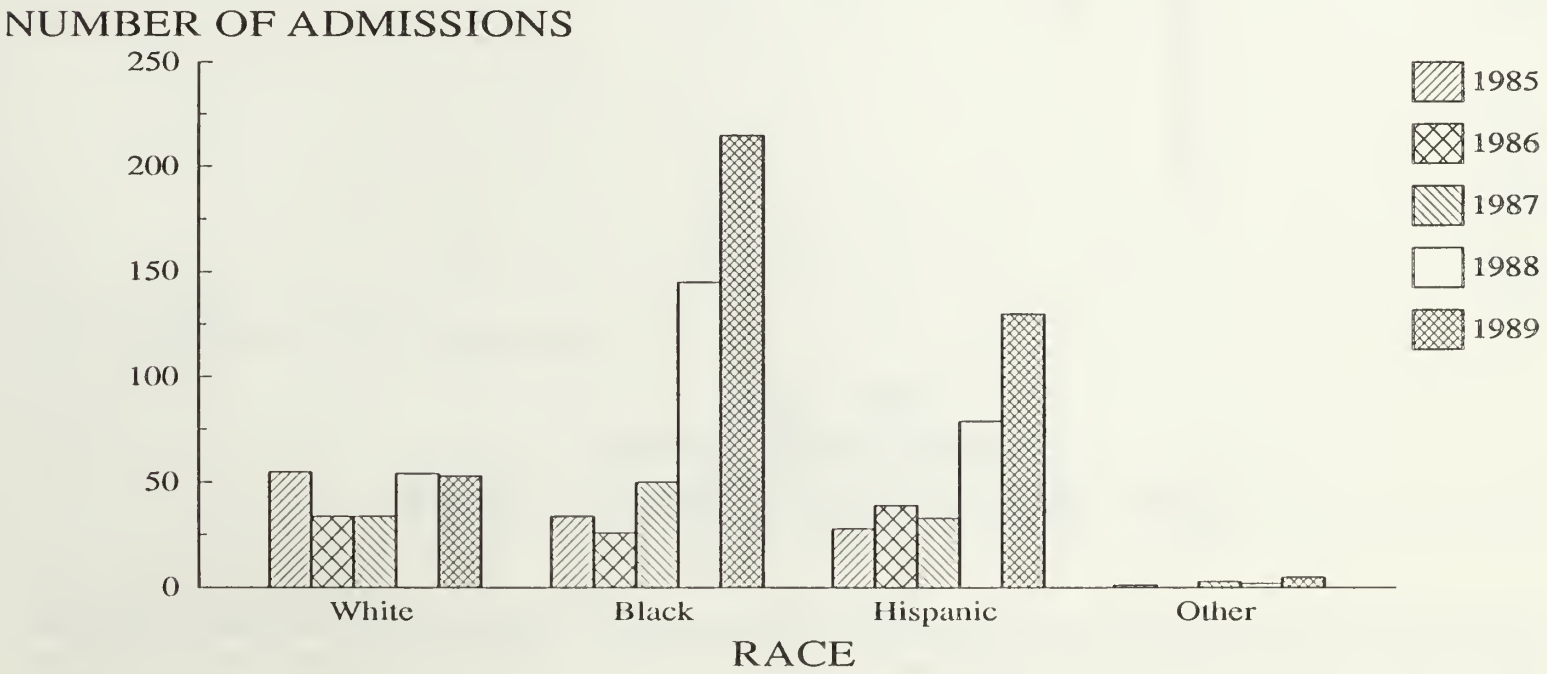
**REGION:** The Metropolitan Boston Region has consistently had the highest proportion of bail admissions for drug offenses during the five year time period. From 1985 to 1989, all regions with the exception of the Central Region have shown large increases in the number of bail admissions for drug offenses. The largest increase occurred in the Western Region where admissions for drug offenses increased almost seven fold (564%) from 14 in 1985 to 93 in 1989. The Metro Region had an increase of over four hundred percent (402%, from 42 in 1985 to 211 in 1989) and the Northeast Region had an increase of three hundred percent, going from 11 in 1985 to 44 in 1989. From 1988 to 1989, the region with the largest increase was the Northeast Region which almost doubled the number of admissions for drug offenses (23 vs. 44). The Metro Region saw an increase of almost sixty percent (59%) from 133 in 1988 to 211 in 1989.



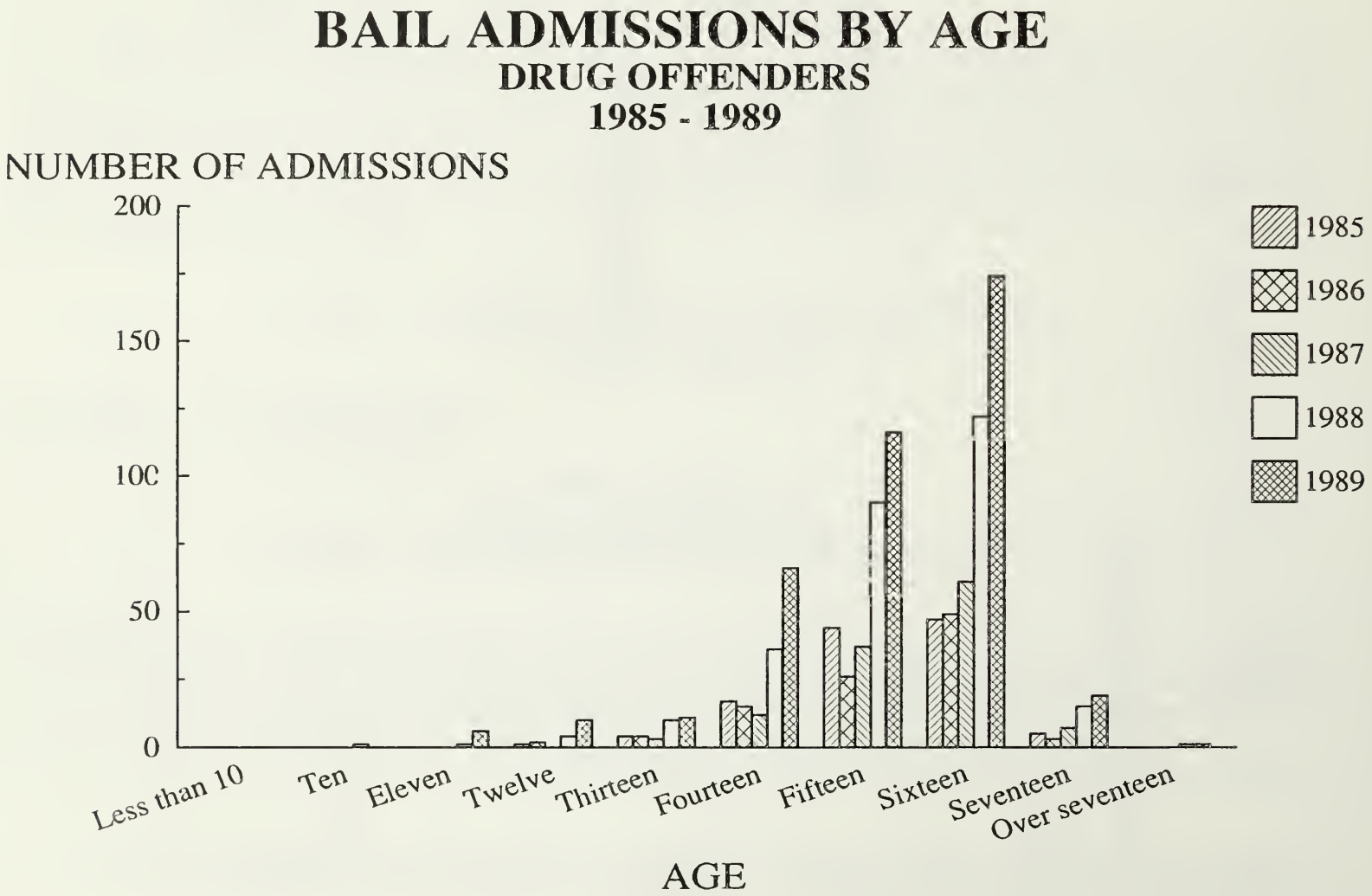
**SEX:** The majority of the bail admissions for drug offenses from 1985 to 1989 were males. From 1988 to 1989, the number of admissions for drug offenses who were female increased by twenty-four percent (21 to 31) while the number of males increased by three hundred percent (259 to 372).

**RACE:** The racial distribution of the bail admissions for drug offenses has changed dramatically from 1985 to 1989. In 1985, white youth represented almost hald (47%) of the bail admissions for drug offenses. However, the proportion of white youth admitted for drug offenses in 1989 decreased to only thirteen percent. In 1989, more than half (53%) of the bail admissions for drug offenses were black compared to only twenty-nine percent in 1985. The bail admissions for drug offenses who were Hispanic also increased from 24% in 1985 to 32% in 1989. From 1988 to 1989, there were increases for black youth (48%) and Hispanic admissions (65%).

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### DRUG OFFENDERS
### 1985 - 1989



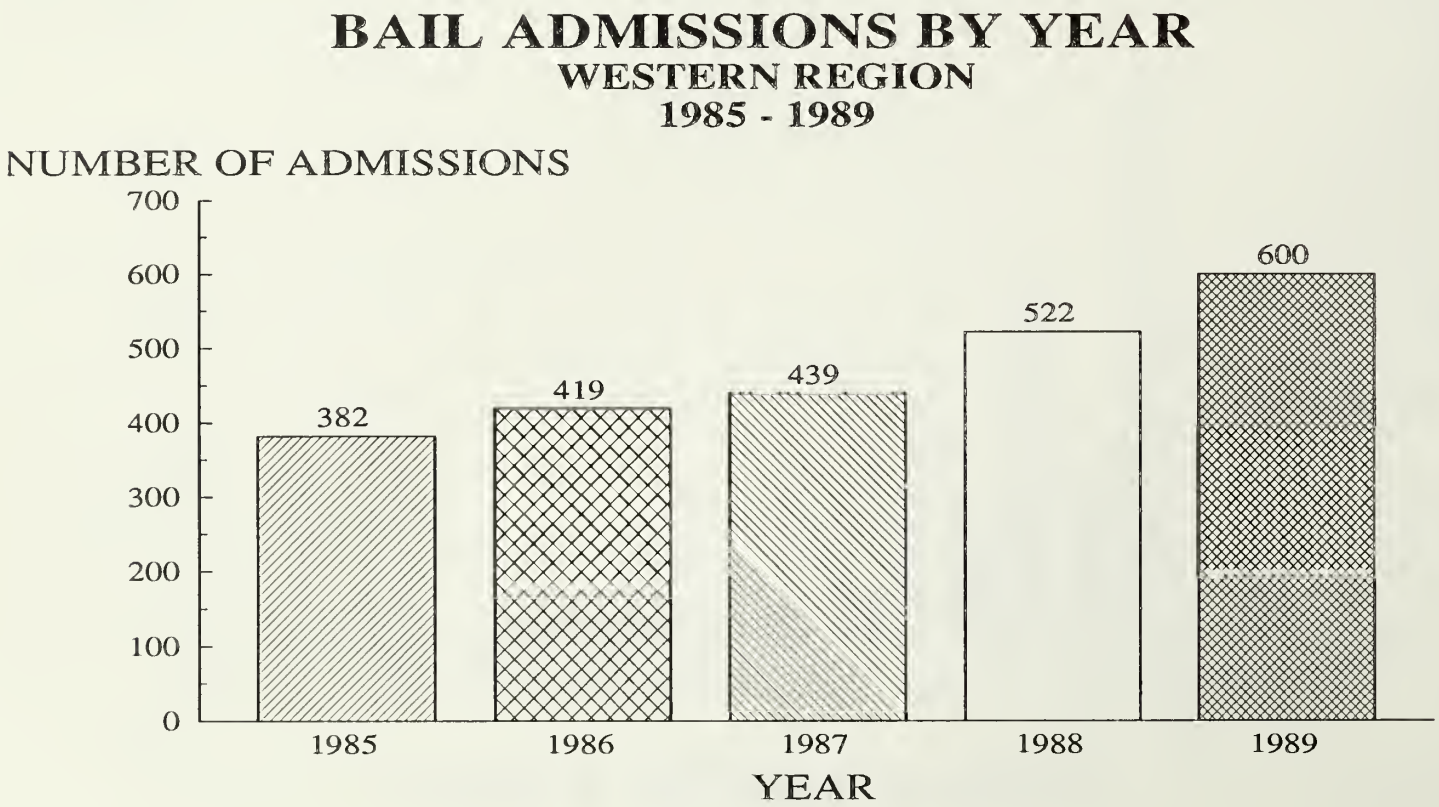
**AGE:** All age categories have experienced increases from 1985 to 1989 for bail admissions who were drug offenders. From 1988 to 1989, there was almost a doubling (83%) of the number of youth who were fourteen at the time of their admission to detention (from 36 to 66).



# Section III - Regional Descriptions

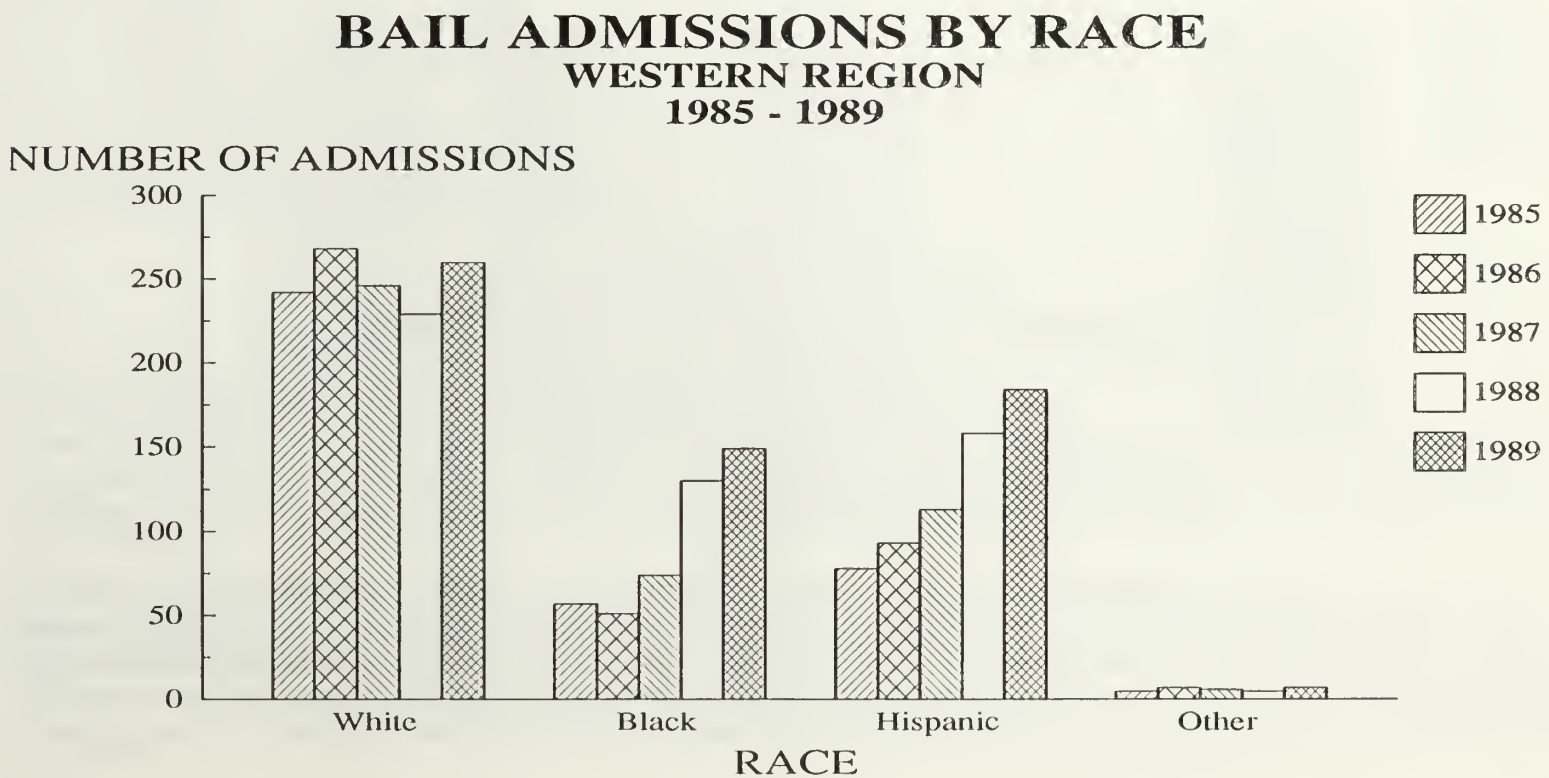
## A. WESTERN REGION

The number of bail detention admissions from the Western Region has shown a constant increase over the four year period from 1985 to 1989. The admissions from the Western Region have totaled 382 during 1985, 419 during 1986, 439 during 1987, 522 during 1988, and 600 during 1989. From 1985 to 1989, the bail admissions from the Western Region increased by almost sixty percent (57%). Compared to 1988, the bail admissions from the Western Region increased by fifteen percent.



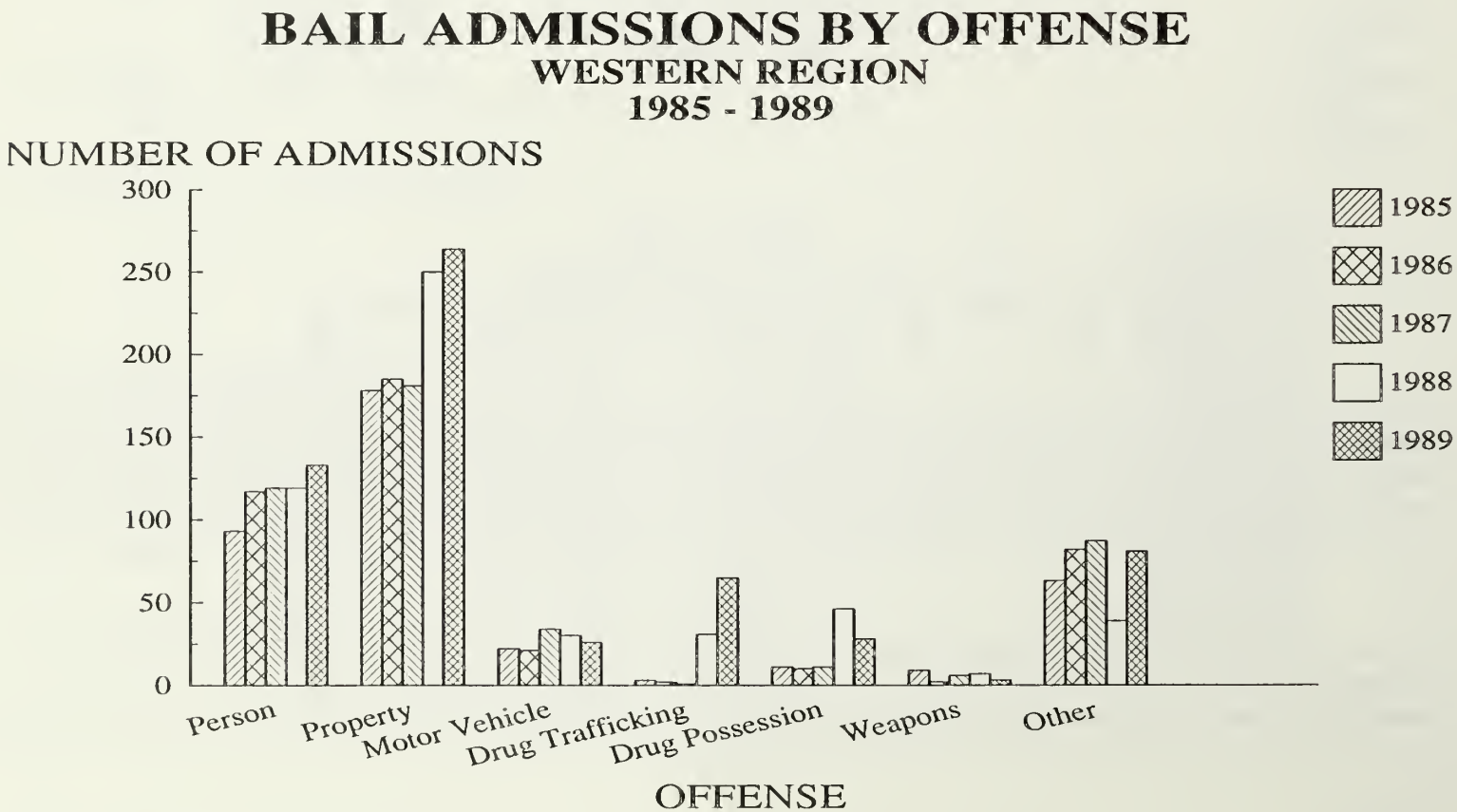
**SEX:** The Western Region has seen fluctuations in the bail admission population who were female from 1985 to 1989. The highest number of bail admissions who were female was in 1987. From 1988 to 1989, there has been a slight increase in the number of female bail admissions (3%, from 88 to 91). The bail admissions who were male have shown a fairly constant increase over the five year time span. From 1988 to 1989, there was an increase of seventeen percent in the number of bail admissions from the Western Region who were male.

**RACE:** The bail admissions from the Western Region from 1985 to 1989 indicates an increasing number and proportion of minority admissions in the bail population. In 1985, whites made up 63% of the population, blacks represented 15%, and Hispanic represented 20% of the bail admission population from the Western Region. In 1989, the proportion of whites in the bail admission population was 43%, blacks represented 25%, and Hispanics represented 31%. From 1988 to 1989, the number of bail admissions from the Western Region who were black increased by fifteen percent (130 to 149) and the number who were Hispanic increased by sixteen percent (158 to 184).



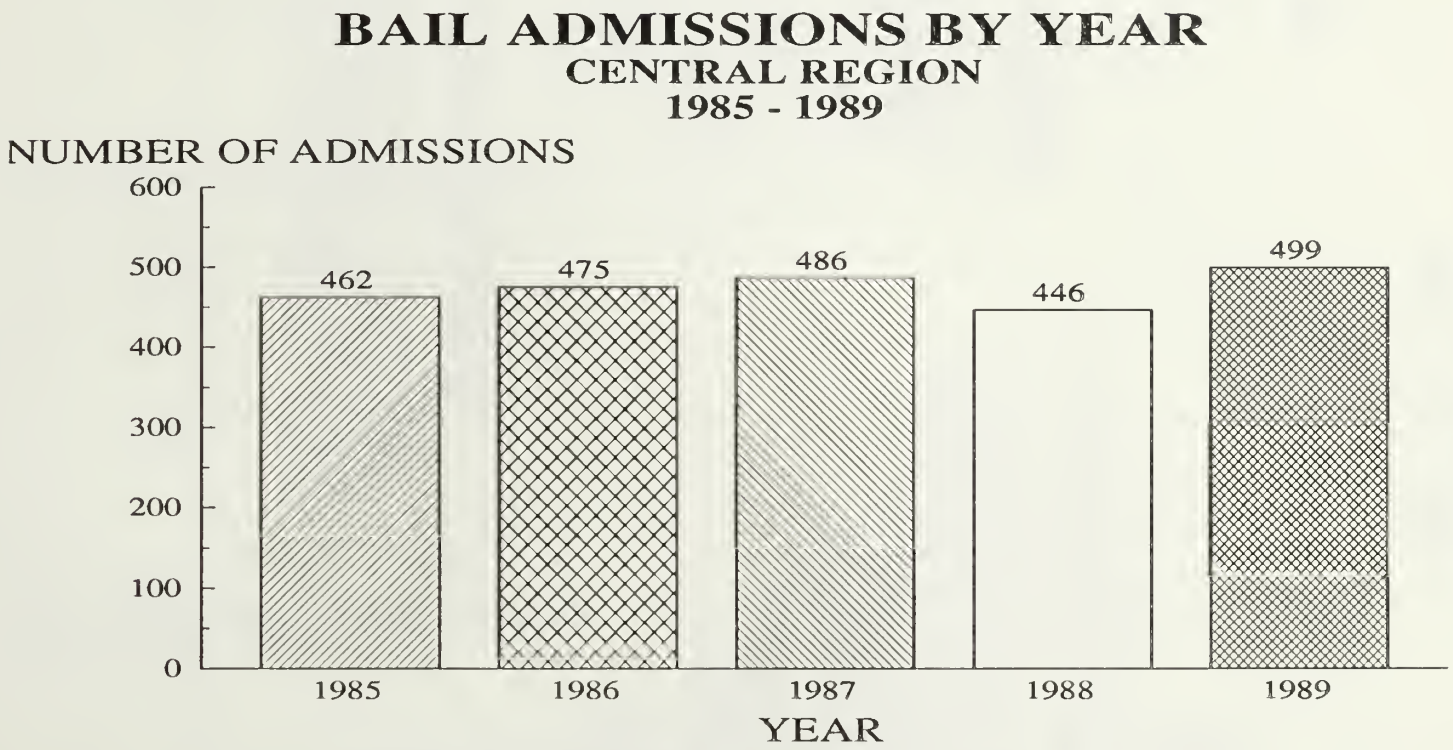
**AGE:** There have been fluctuations in the bail admissions for the Western Region who are at the youngest ages (thirteen years of age or younger) for the years 1985 to 1989. From 1988 to 1989, there were increases in the following age categories for bail admissions from the Western Region: eleven years old- up 50% (from 10 to 15), twelve years old- up 188% (from 8 to 23), fourteen years old- up 55% (from 83 to 129), and sixteen year olds- up 28% (from 165 to 211). The were identical decreases of fifteen percent in the thirteen year old category (from 47 to 40) and the fifteen year old category (from 180 to 153).

**OFFENSE:** From 1985 to 1989, there has been a fairly steady increase in bail admissions from the Western Region for person offenses and property offenses while there have been more substantial increases in the drug offenses. From 1988 to 1989, there were increases in the following offense categories: person offenses- up twelve percent (from 119 to 133), property offenses- up six percent (from 250 to 264), and drug trafficking offenses- up 110% (from 31 to 65).



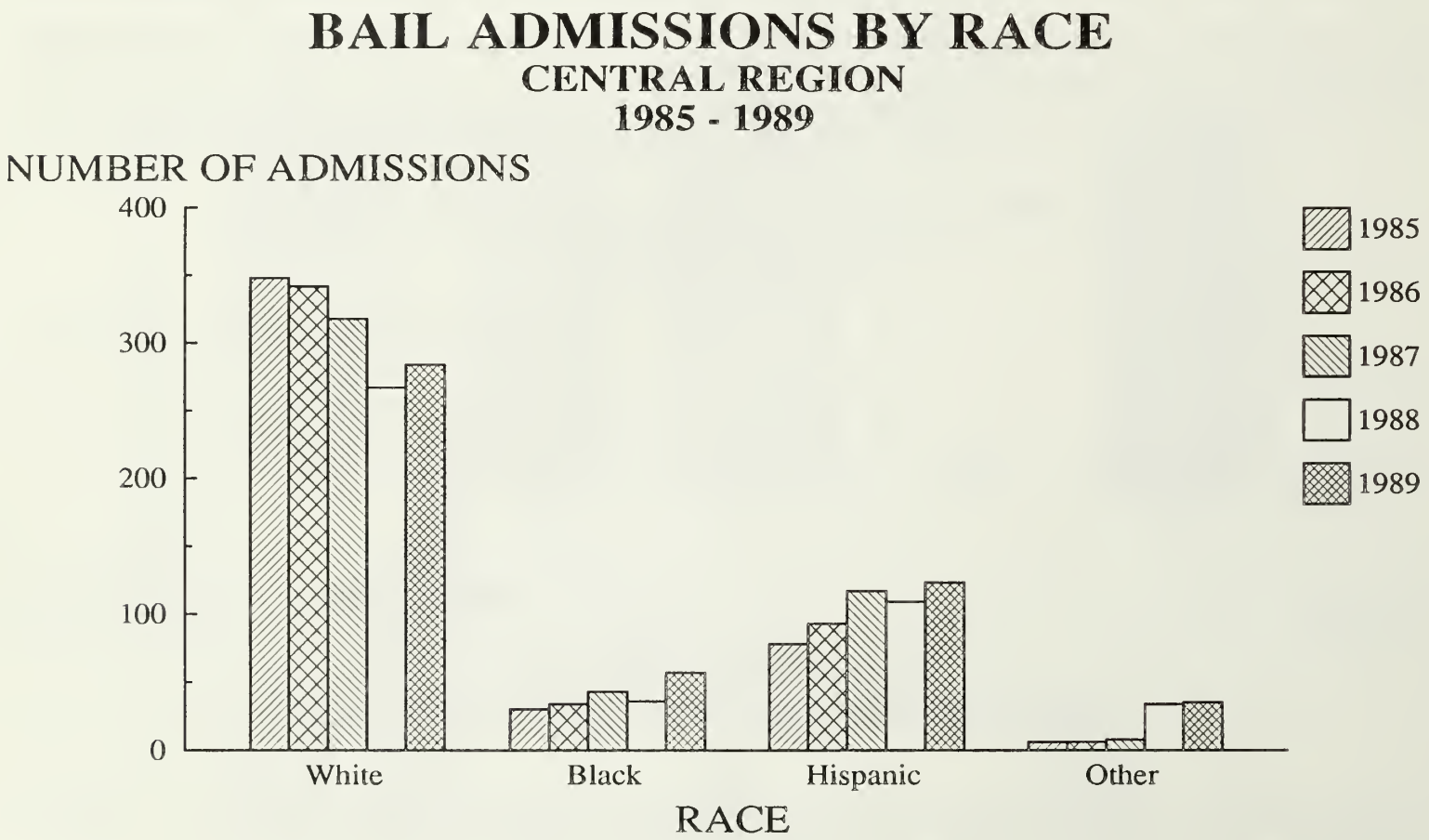
## B. CENTRAL REGION

The number of bail detention admissions from the Central Region increased consistently from 1985 to 1987, but decreased from 1987 to 1988. From 1988 to 1989, the number of bail admissions from the Central Region increased by twelve percent (from 446 to 499).

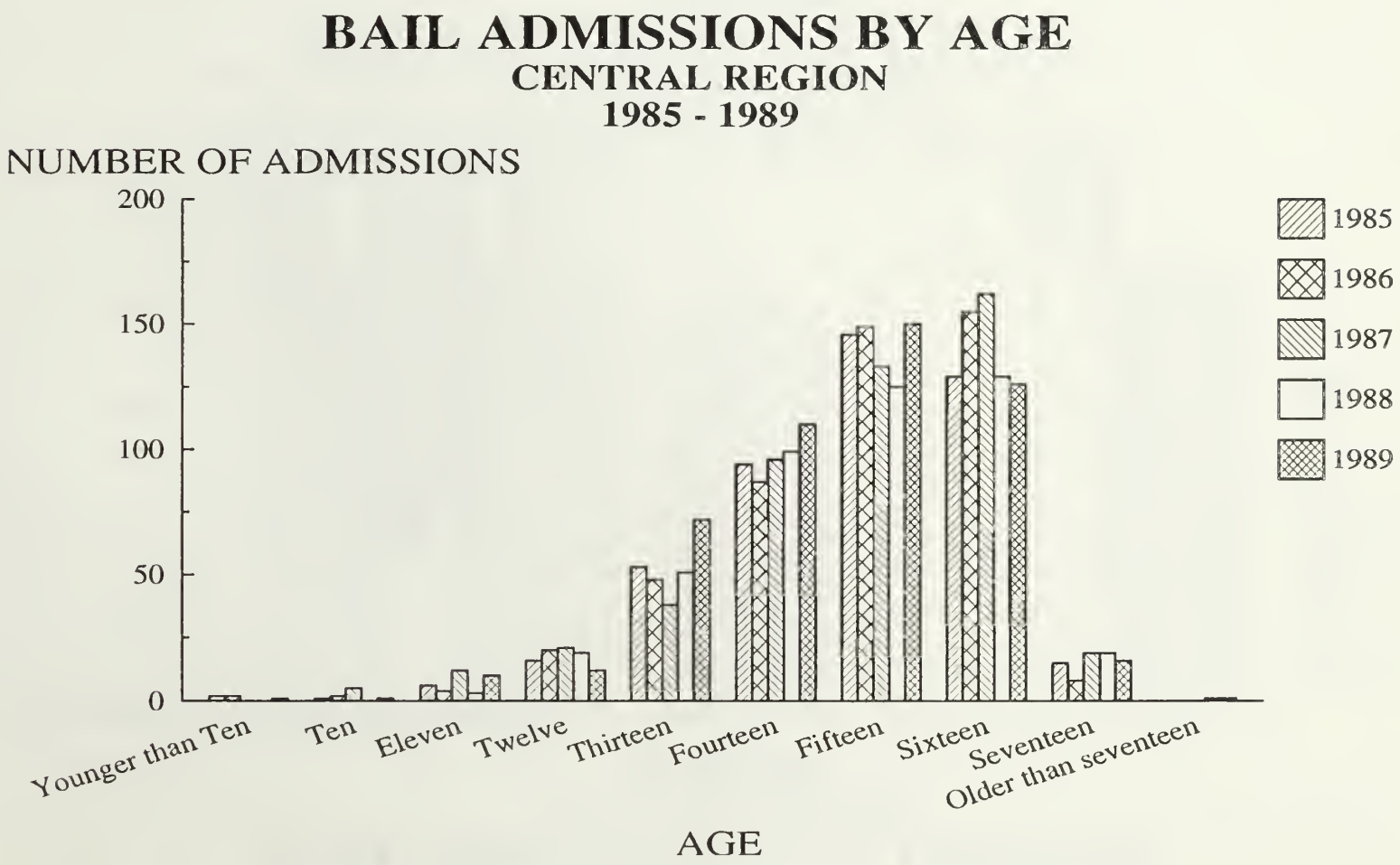



SEX: The number of bail admissions from the Central Region who were female increased from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 has been steadily decreasing. For males, the number of bail admissions has increased steadily with the exception of the period from 1987 to 1988. From 1988 to 1989, the number of admissions who were female decreased by eight percent (from 97 to 89) while the number who were male increased by seventeen percent (from 349 to 410).

RACE: The number of bail admissions to the Central Region who have been white decreased from 1985 to 1988 but increased from 1988 to 1989. From 1985 to 1987 the number of admissions who were black and Hispanic increased but there was a decrease from 1987 to 1988. From 1988 to 1989, there was an increase of fifty-eight percent in the admissions who were black (from 36 to 57) and an increase of thirteen percent in the admissions who were Hispanic (from 109 to 123).

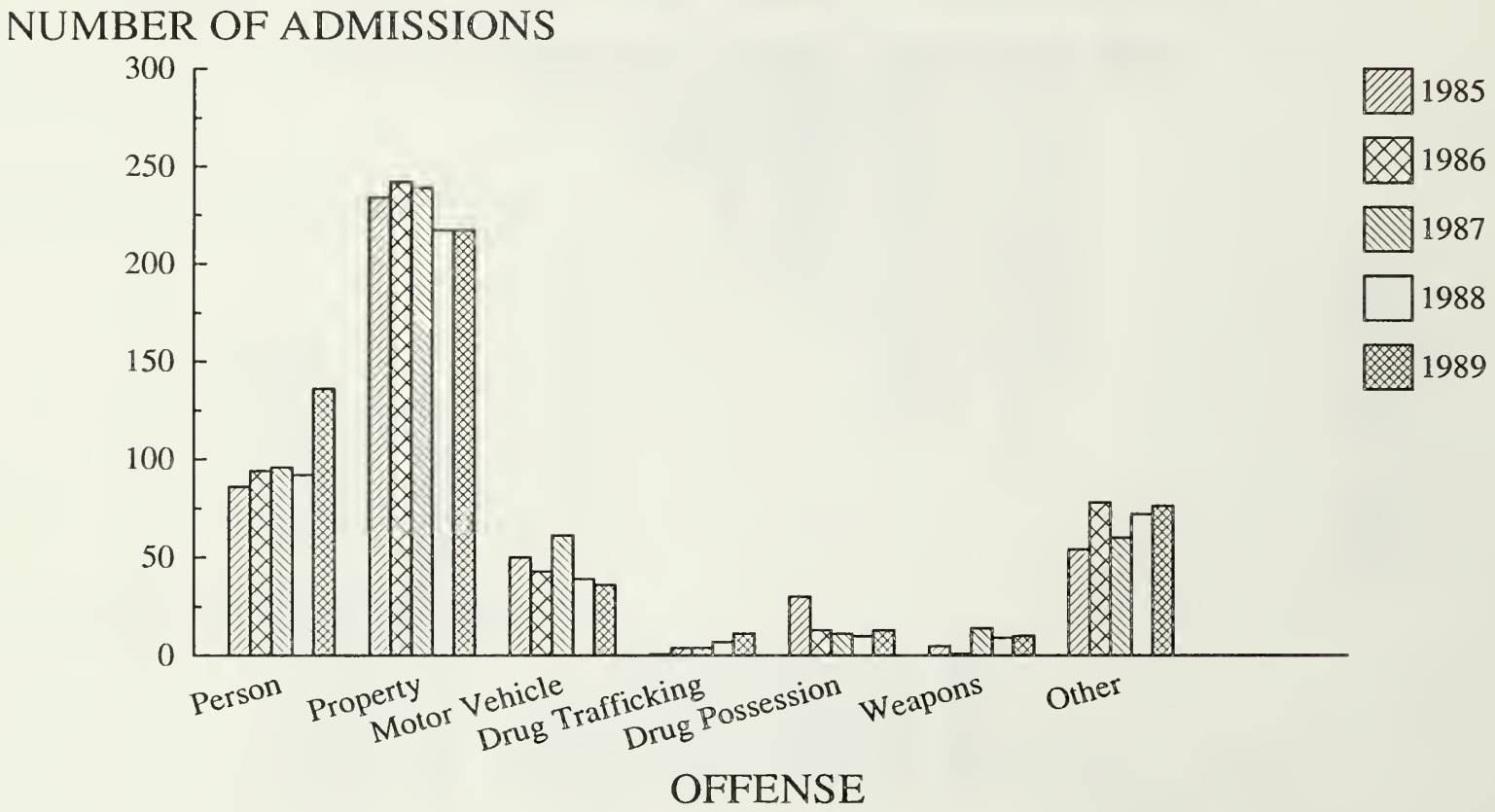


**AGE:** From 1988 to 1989, there were increases in the following age categories for bail admissions from the Central Region: eleven year olds (from 3 to 10), thirteen year olds (from 51 to 72), fourteen year olds (from 99 to 110), and fifteen year olds (from 125 to 150).



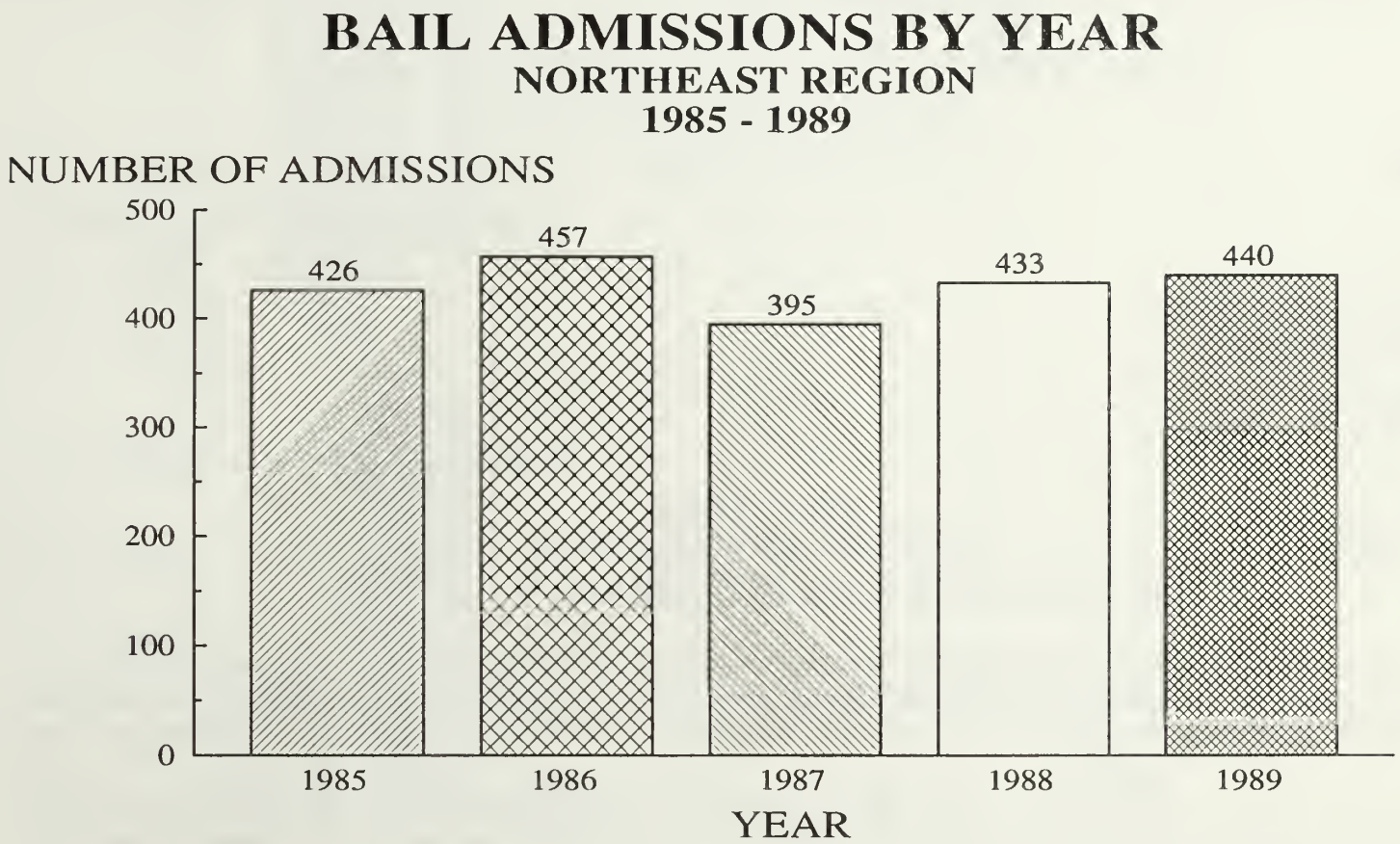
**OFFENSE:** From 1988 to 1989, all offense categories showed increases for bail admissions from the Central Region with the exception of motor vehicle offenses which showed a slight decrease.

# BAIL ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
## CENTRAL REGION
## 1985 - 1989



## C. NORTHEAST REGION

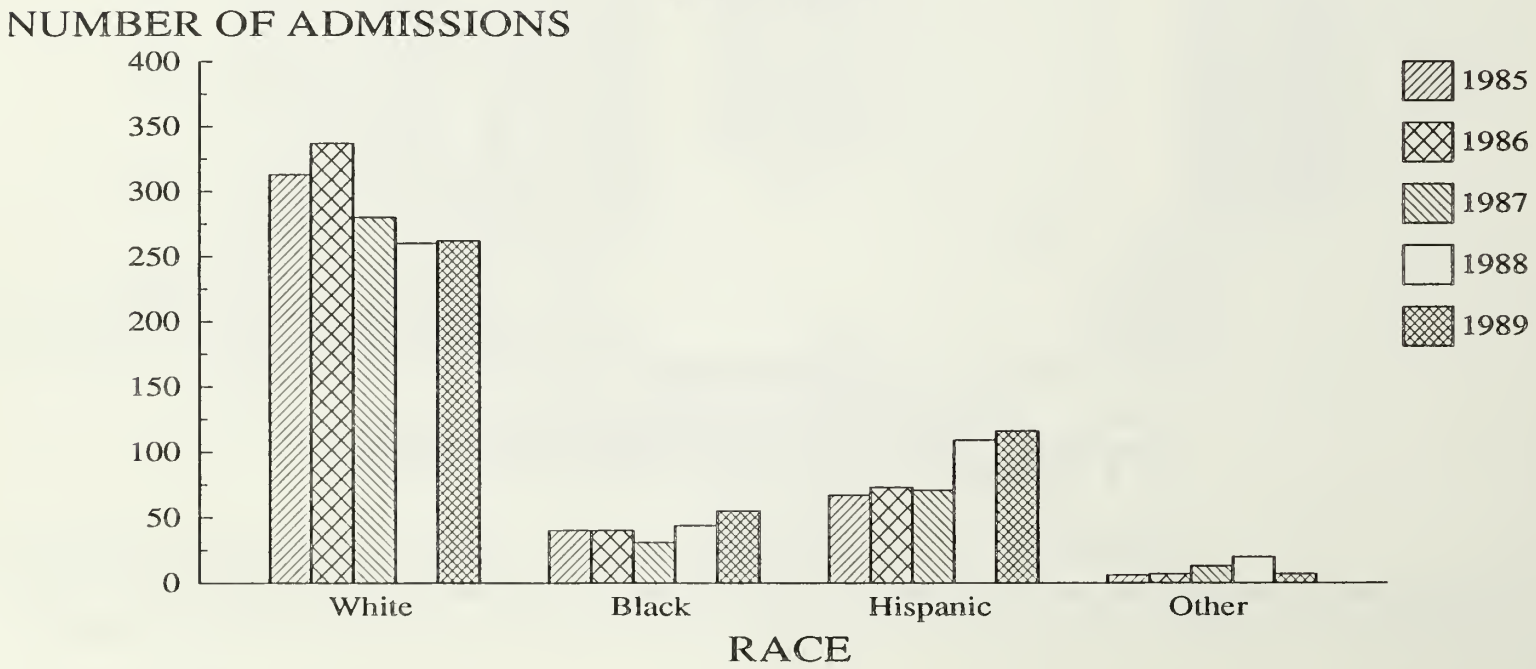
The Northeast Region has experienced fluctuations in the number of bail detention admissions during the five year period from 1985 to 1989. Admissions increased from 1985 to 1986, decreased from 1986 to 1987, and increased from 1987 to 1989. The largest number of bail admissions during the five year period was in 1986 with 457 bail admissions.



**SEX:** The Northeast Region experienced increases in the number of female bail detention admissions. From 1985 to 1988, the region experienced an increase of forty-three percent (from 58 to 83) in the number of female bail admissions. From 1988 to 1989, there was an eighteen percent decrease (from 83 to 68) in the number of female bail admissions. The number of bail detention admissions who were male increased slightly from 1988 to 1989 (from 350 to 372).

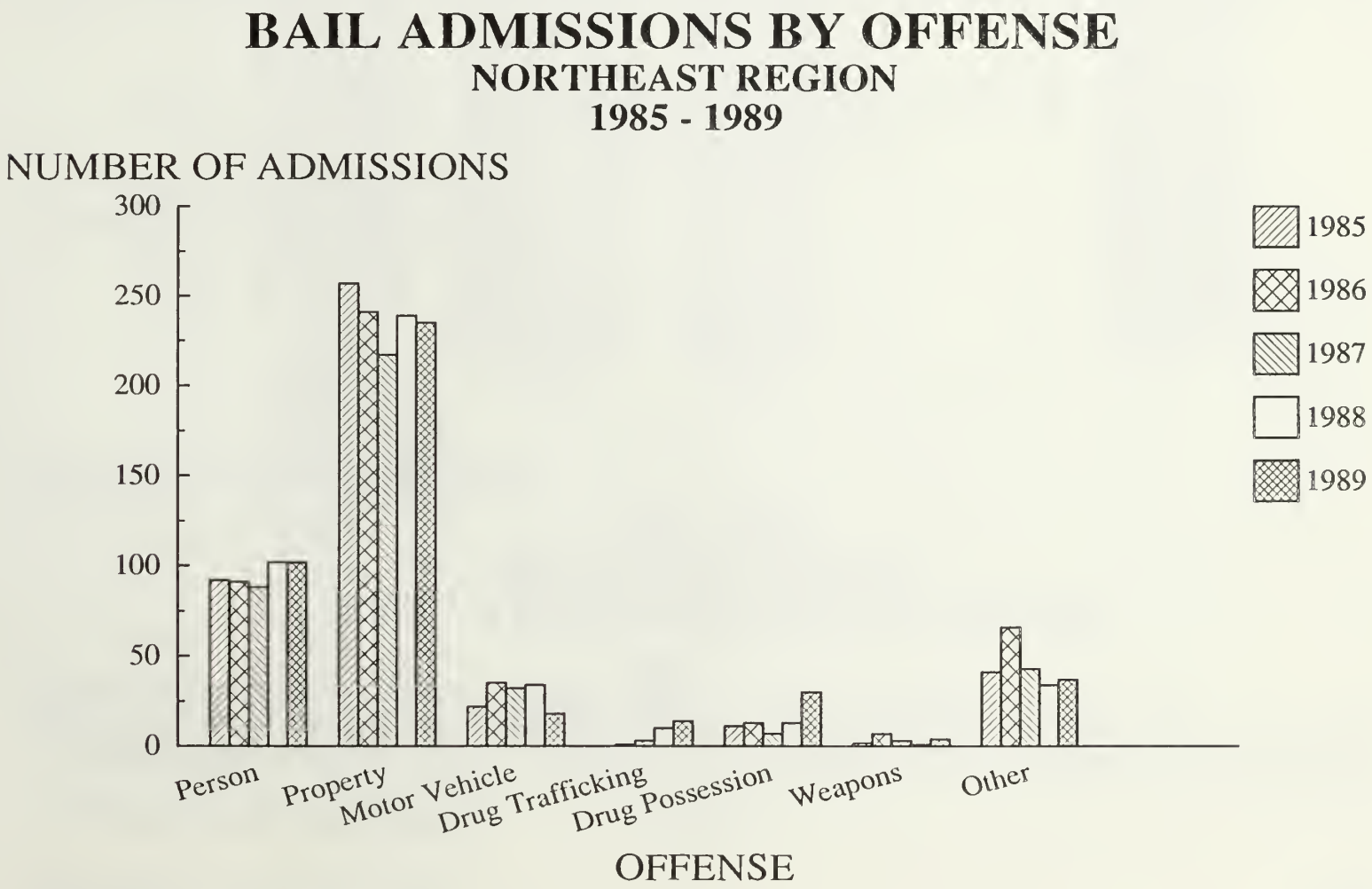
**RACE:** The number of white bail admissions has been decreasing since 1985. There was a slight increase in the number of white bail admissions from 1988 to 1989 (1%, from 260 to 262). From 1988 to 1989, the number of black bail admissions increased by twenty-five percent (from 44 to 55) and the number of Hispanic admissions increased by six percent (from 109 to 116).

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### NORTHEAST REGION
### 1985 - 1989



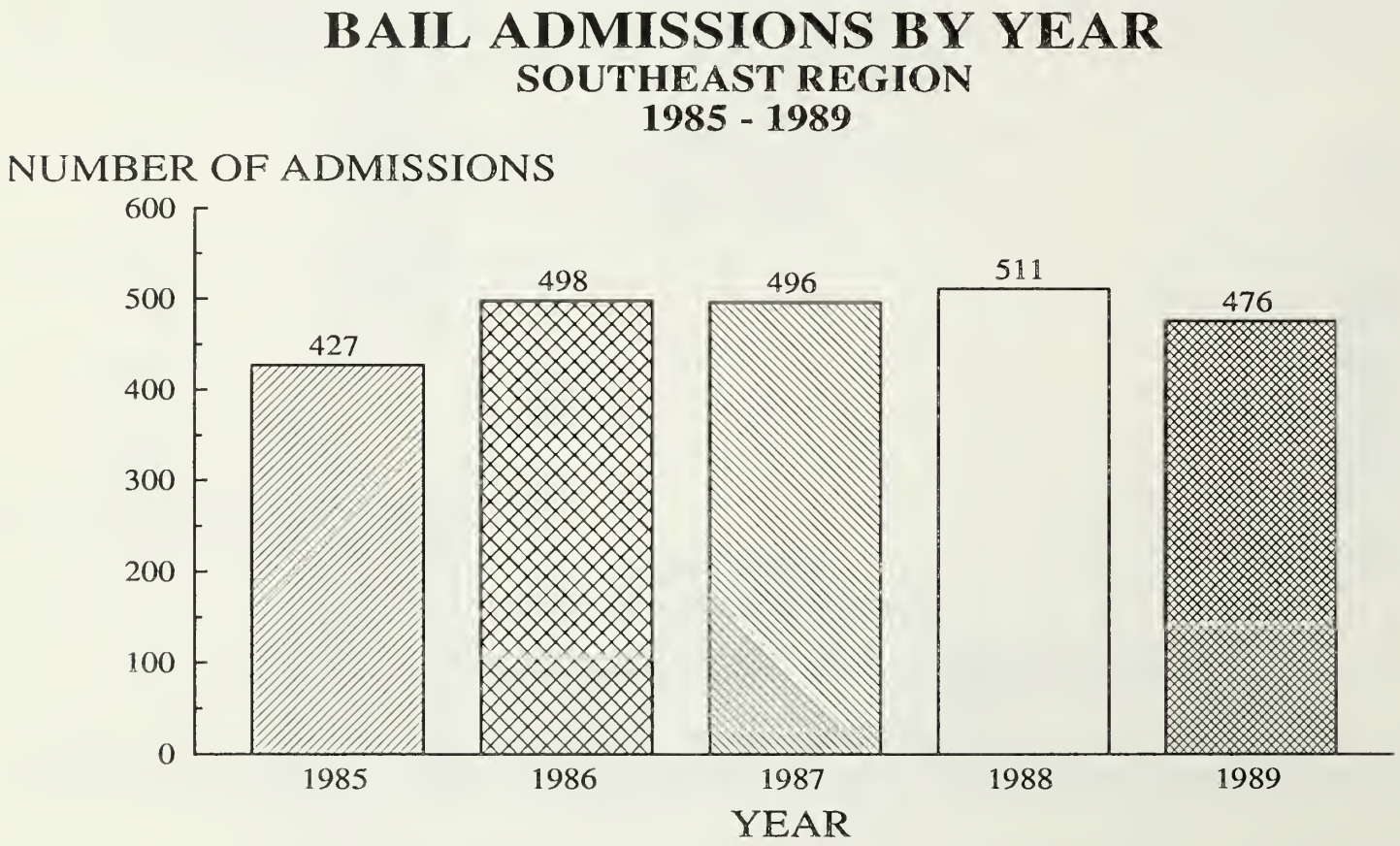
**AGE:** The Northeast Region has experienced variations in the age categories of bail admissions in each of the years from 1985 to 1989. From 1988 to 1989, there were increases in the following age categories: twelve years old (13 to 15), thirteen years old (33 to 41), fourteen years old (69 to 82), and seventeen years old (21 to 25).

**OFFENSE:** The number of bail admissions in the Northeast Region for offenses against the person increased by eleven percent from 1985 to 1989. The number of admissions for property offenses decreased by eighteen percent from 1985 to 1989.



## D. SOUTHEAST REGION

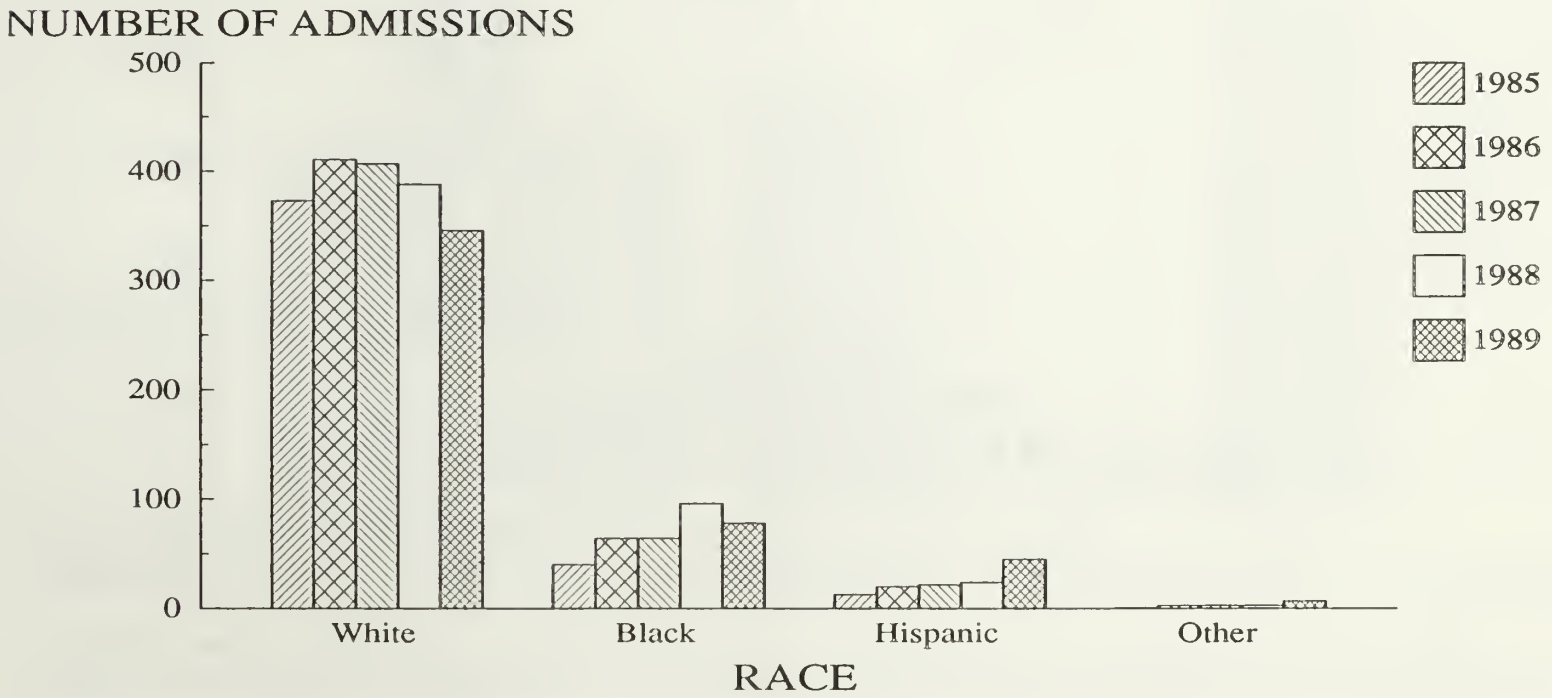
The Southest Region experienced almost a twenty percent increase in bail detention admissions from 1985 to 1986 (427 to 498) and from 1986 to 1988 remained fairly constant. From 1988 to 1989 there was a decrease of seven percent (511 to 476) in the number of bail admissions in the Southeast Region.



**SEX:** The Southeast Region experienced a twenty-one percent decrease (96 to 76) in the number of bail admissions who were female from 1988 to 1989. The number of admissions who were male decreased by four percent (415 to 400) from 1988 to 1989.

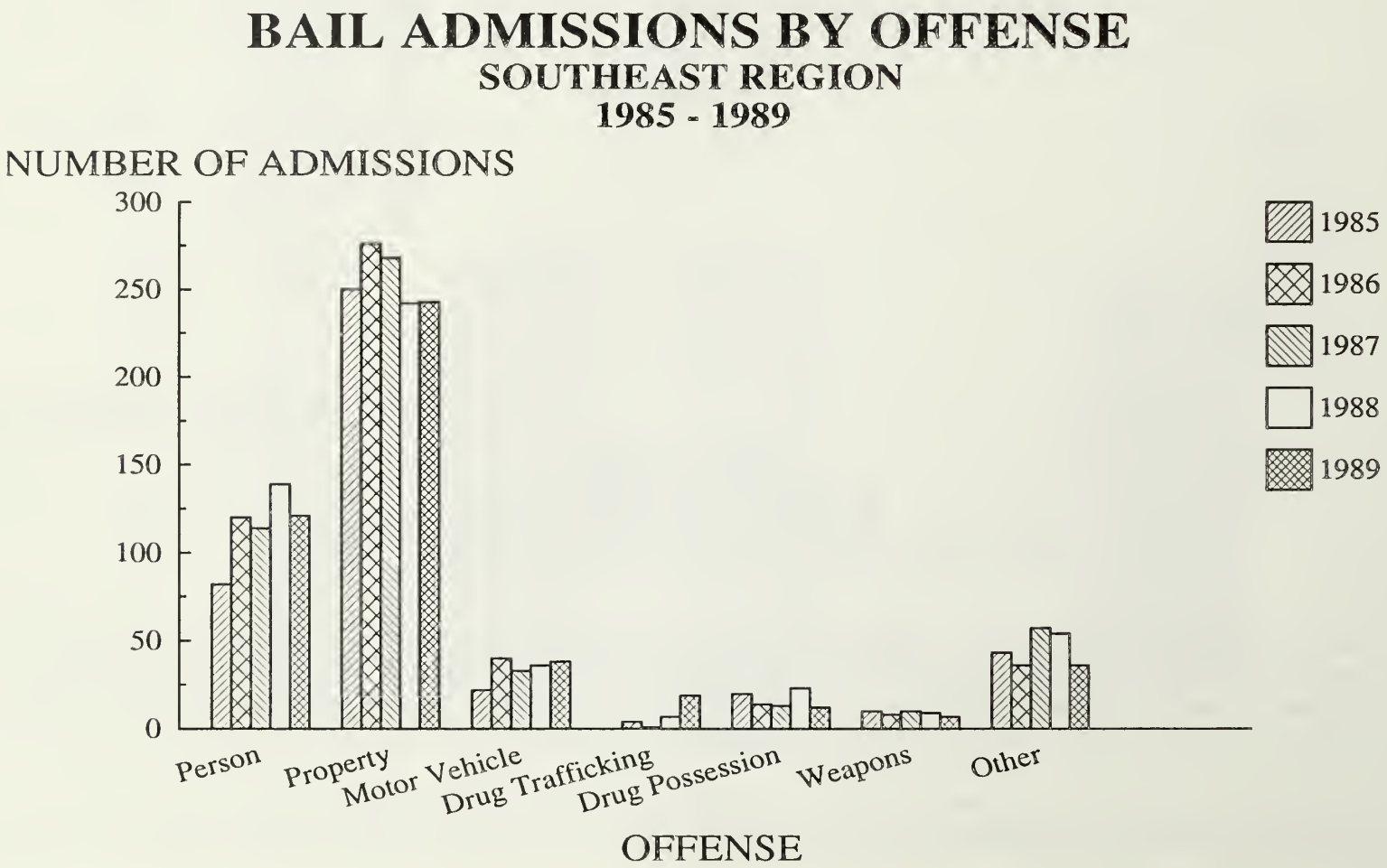
**RACE:** The number of bail admissions from the Southeast Region who were white increased from 1985 to 1987, but has been declining since them. From 1988 to 1989, there was an eleven percent decrease (388 to 346) in the number of bail admissions who were white. The number of bail admissions who were black had increased from 1985 to 1988, but declined by nineteen percent (96 to 78) from 1988 to 1989. The number of bail admissions who were Hispanic increased by 88% (24 to 45) from 1988 to 1989.

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### SOUTHEAST REGION
### 1985 - 1989



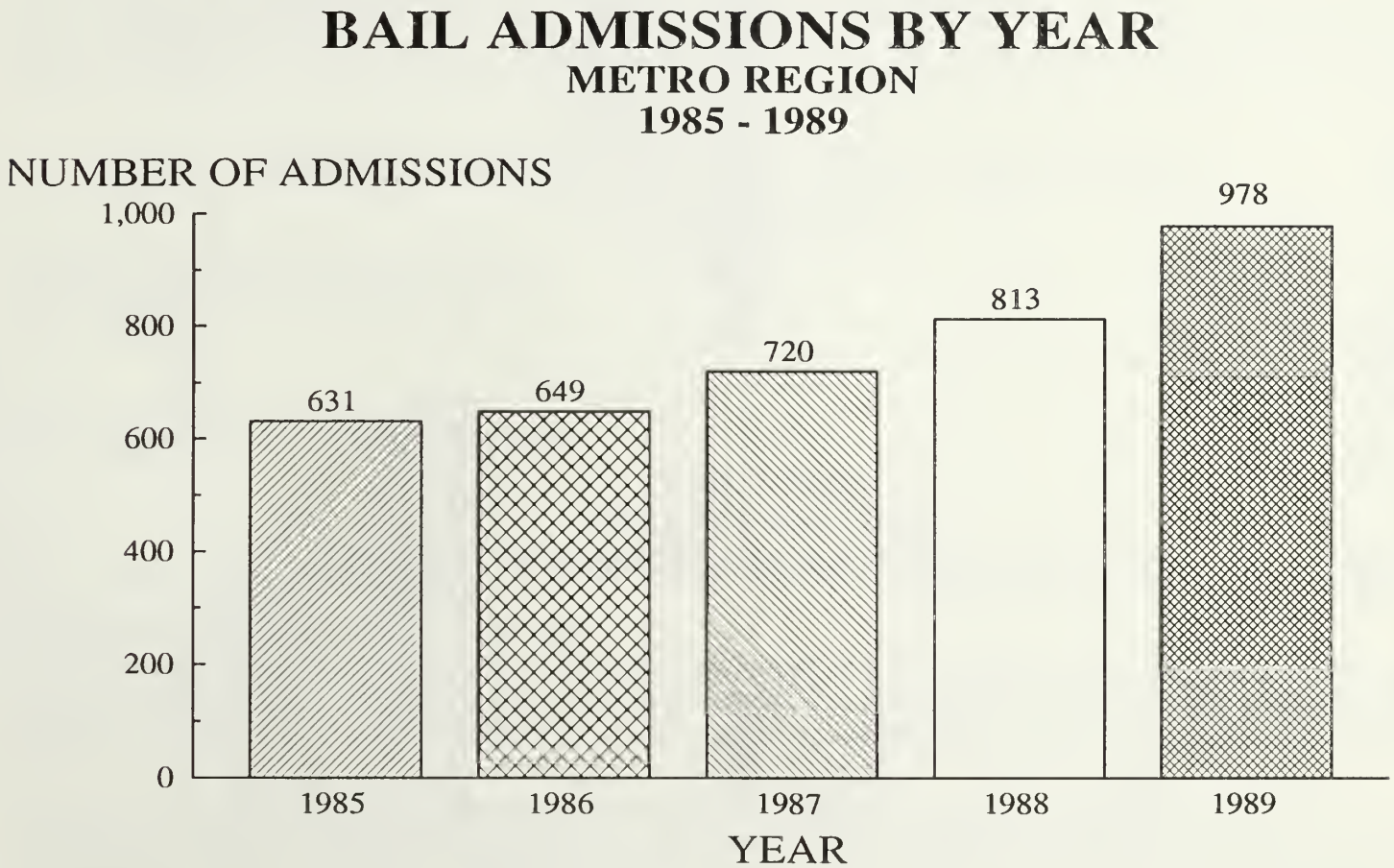
**AGE:** Comparing 1988 to 1989, there were decreases in most of the age categories for bail admissions from the Southeast Region. The only age categories where there were increases were for twelve year olds (7 to 10) and fourteen year olds (81 to 89).

**OFFENSE:** From 1988 to 1989, there was a slight increase in admissions for property offenses (242 to 243), motor vehicle offenses (36 to 38), and drug trafficking offenses (7 to 19).



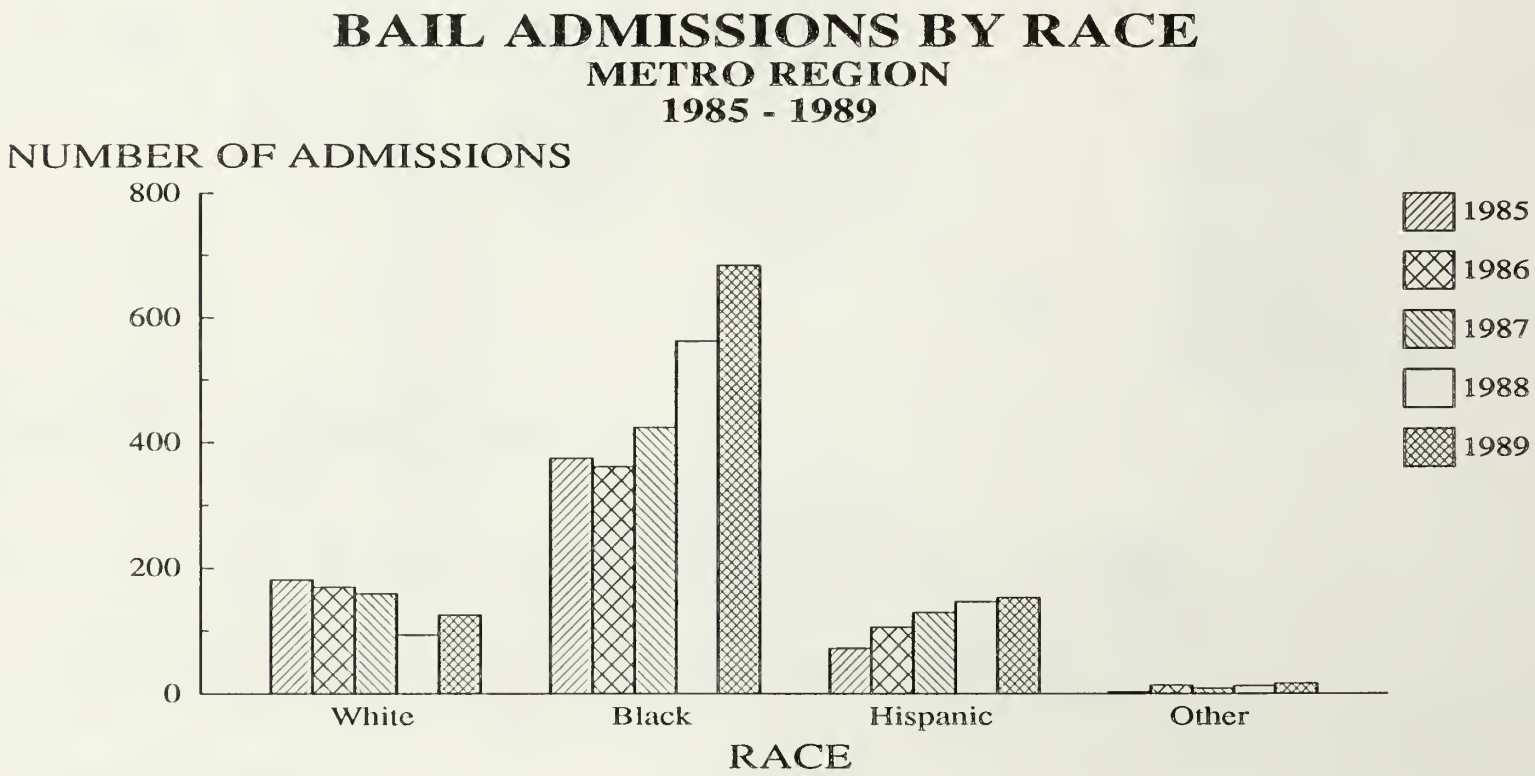
## E. METRO REGION

The Metro Boston Region has seen an increase each year in the number of bail detention admissions during the five year period from 1985 to 1989. The 1989 total of 978 bail admissions was the highest during the five year period.



**SEX:** The number of bail admissions who were female decreased every year from 1985 to 1988 in the Metro Region, with the decrease from 1985 to 1988 being twenty-one percent. From 1988 to 1989, there was a fifty-three percent increase (87 to 133) in the number of admissions who were female. The number of bail admissions who were male has increased each year from 1985 to 1989. From 1985 to 1989, the number of admissions who are male has increased by sixty-two percent (521 to 845) and from 1988 to 1989, the number of male admissions increased by sixteen percent (726 to 845).

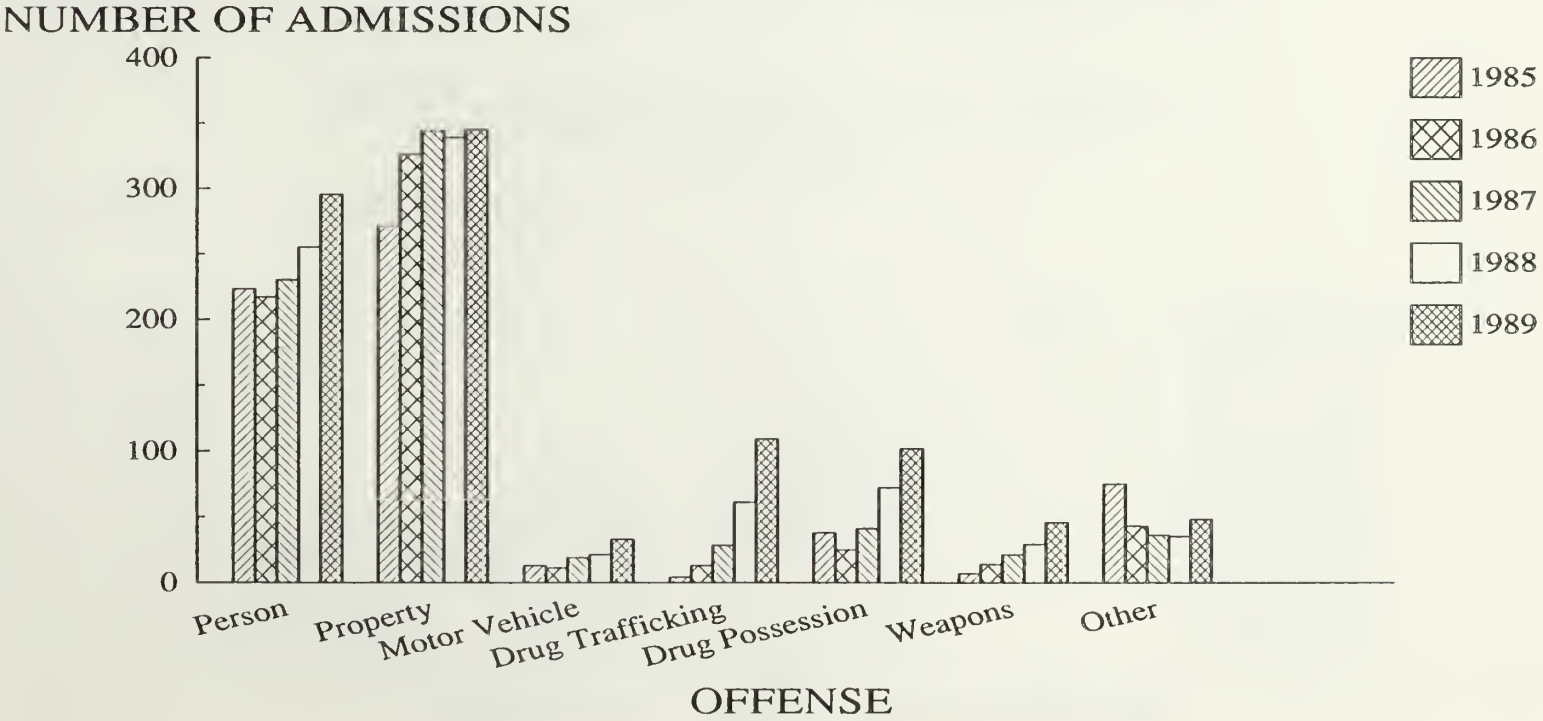
**RACE:** The Metro Region saw a steady erosion in the number of bail admissions who were white from 1985 to 1988. From 1988 to 1989, there was a thirty-four percent (93 to 125) increase in the number of bail admissions who were white. From 1988 to 1989, the number of bail admissions who were black increased by twenty-two percent (562 to 684) and the number who were Hispanic increased by five percent (146 to 153).



**AGE:** The region has experienced increases in all age categories but once in 1989 compared to 1985. From 1988 to 1989, the largest increases were for fifteen year olds who increased by thirty-nine percent (229 to 319) and fourteen year olds who increased by thirty percent (138 to 180).

**OFFENSE:** The Metro Region experienced a decrease in the number of bail admissions for offenses against the person from 1985 to 1986, but since 1986 the numbers have increased. The number of admissions for offenses against the person increased by thirty-two percent in 1989 compared to the number in 1985. From 1988 to 1989, the largest increases were for drug trafficking offenses - up 79% (61 to 109), weapons offenses - up 59% (29 to 46), and motor vehicle offenses - up 57% (from 21 to 33).

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
### METRO REGION
### 1985 - 1989



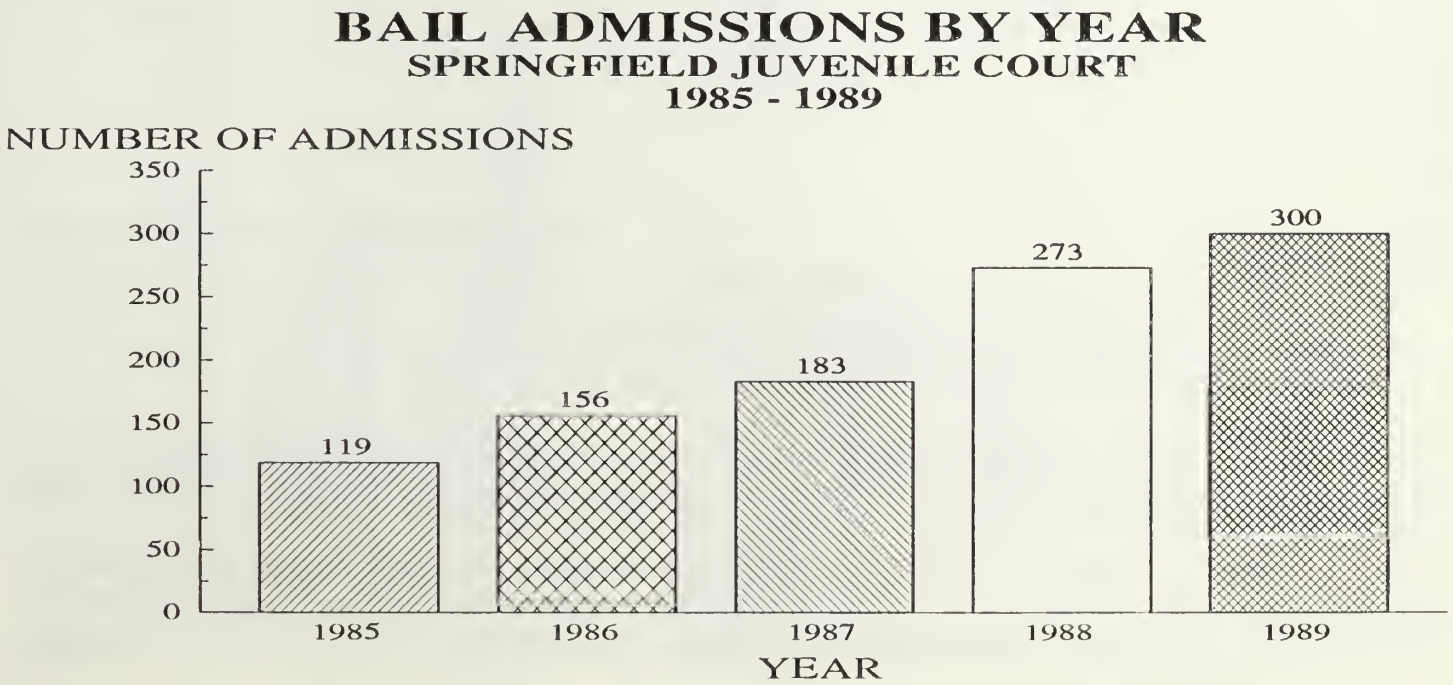
# SECTION IV - COURT INFORMATION

## SECTION IV - COURT INFORMATION

The courts that had at least one hundred bail admissions during 1989 were Springfield Juvenile Court, Worcester Juvenile Court, Lowell Court, Lawrence Court, Brockton Court, Roxbury Court, Dorchester Court, and Boston Juvenile Court. The remainder of this section discusses characteristics of each of these courts to determine if there are any important changes in the bail admissions from these courts.

### A. Springfield Juvenile Court

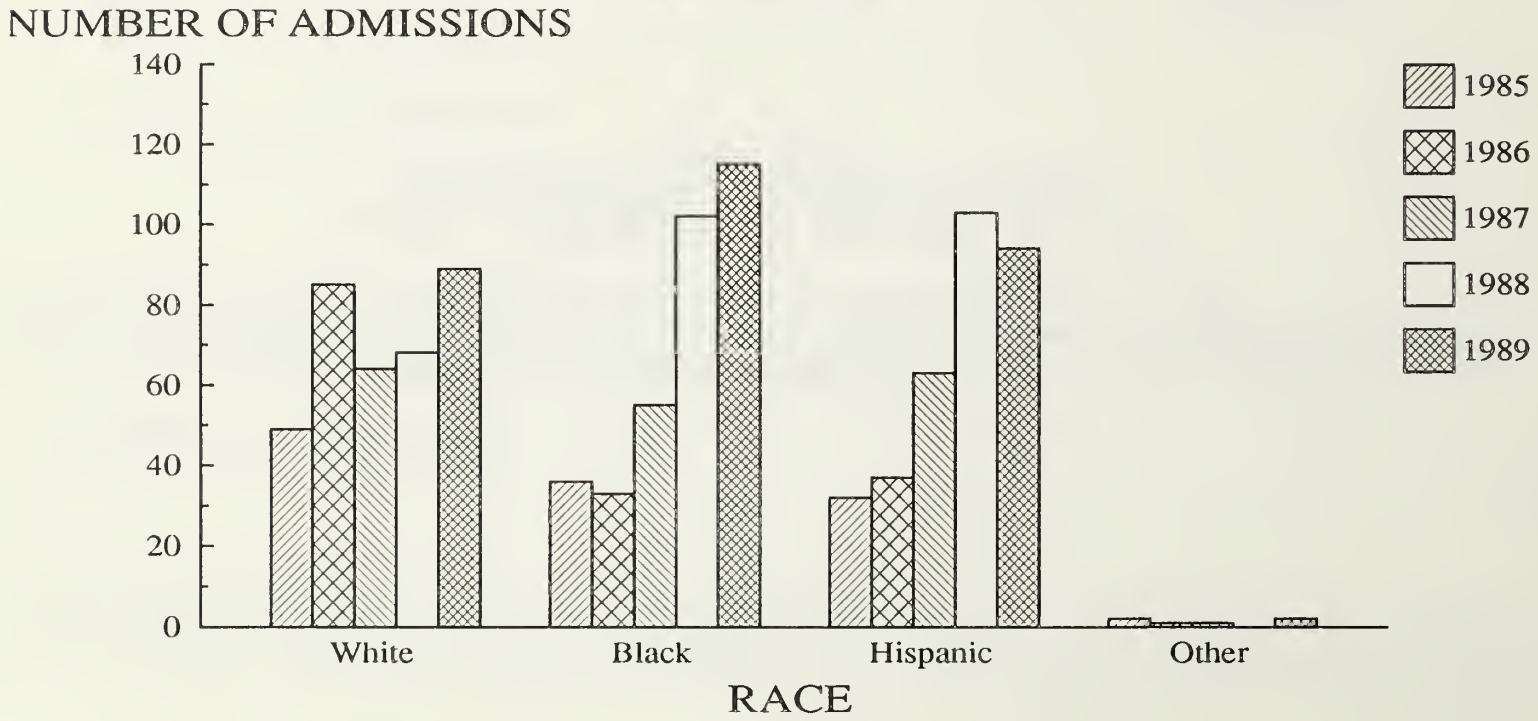
The number of bail detention admissions from the Springfield Juvenile Court have shown a constant increase over the five year period from 1985 to 1989. The numbers of admissions for 1989 was 300, a ten percent increase from 1988. From 1985 to 1989, the admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court increased by over one hundred and fifty percent (152%).



SEX: The number of female bail admissions from Springfield Juvenile Court during 1989 was the highest number of the five year period from 1985. The number of female bail admissions increased seventeen percent from 1988 to 1989 (48 to 56) while the number of bail admissions increased by eight percent (225 to 244).

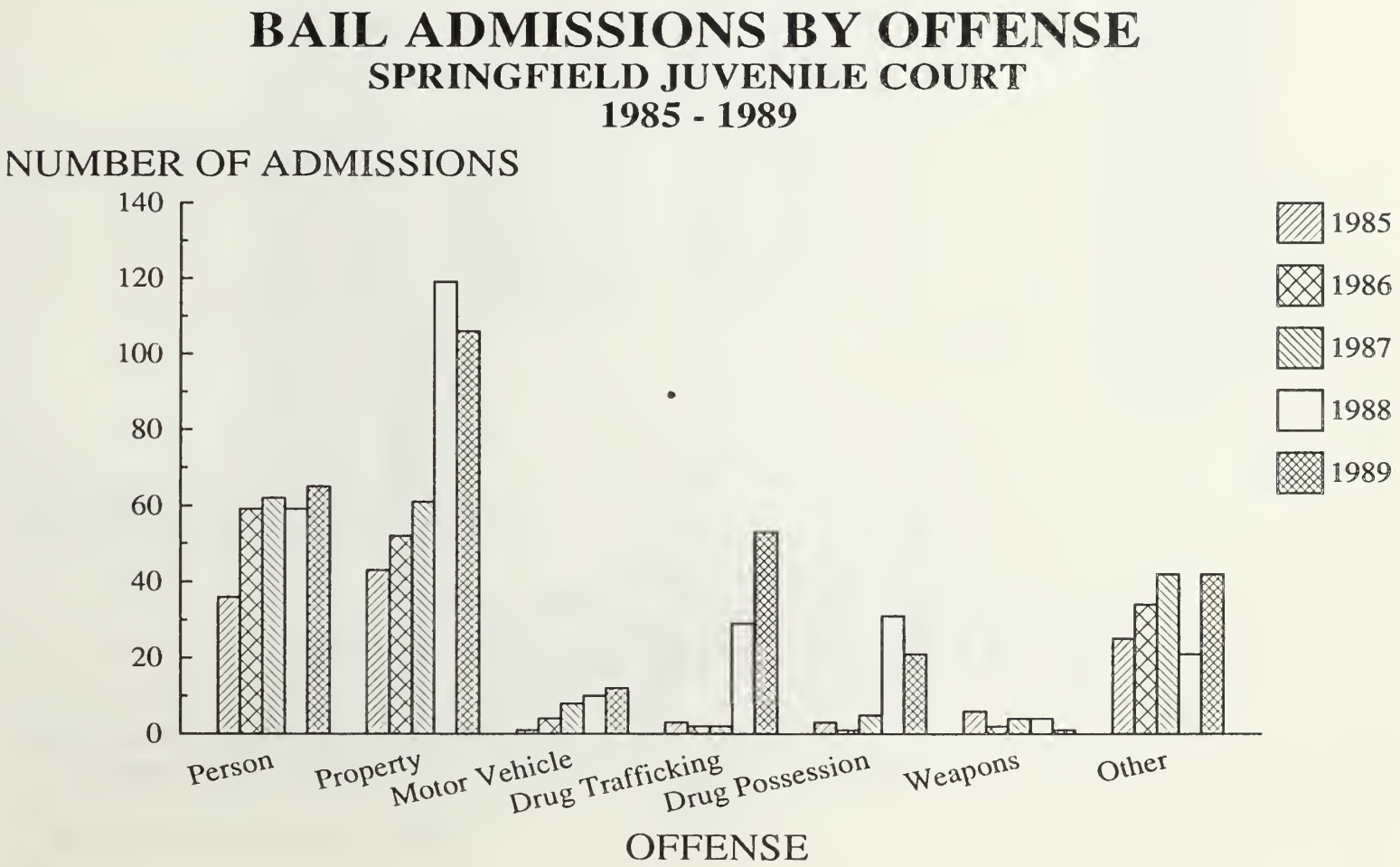
RACE: The number of bail admissions who were white and black increased from 1988 to 1989 by 31% and 13% respectively. The number of bail admissions who were Hispanic decreased from 1988 to 1989 by nine percent.

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### SPRINGFIELD JUVENILE COURT
### 1985 - 1989



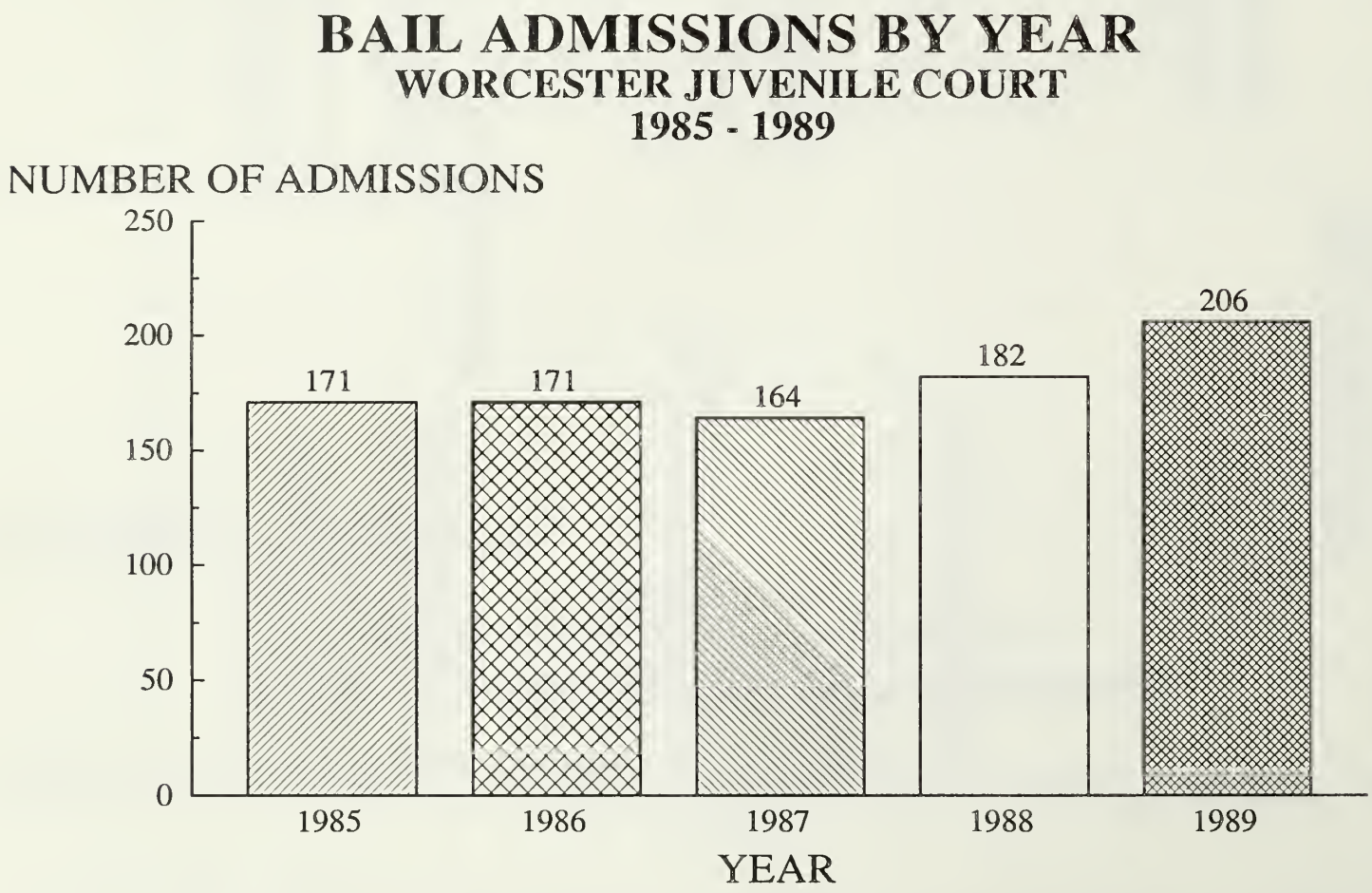
**AGE:** There were increases in the following age categories from 1988 to 1989 - eleven years old (200%, from 3 to 9), twelve year olds (367%, from 3 to 14), fourteen year olds (25%, from 48 to 60), sixteen year olds (17%, from 93 to 109), and seventeen year olds (27%, from 15 to 19).

**OFFENSE:** The offense category showing the largest increase from 1988 to 1989 was the category of drug trafficking offenses which increased by 83% (from 29 to 53).



## B. Worcester Juvenile Court

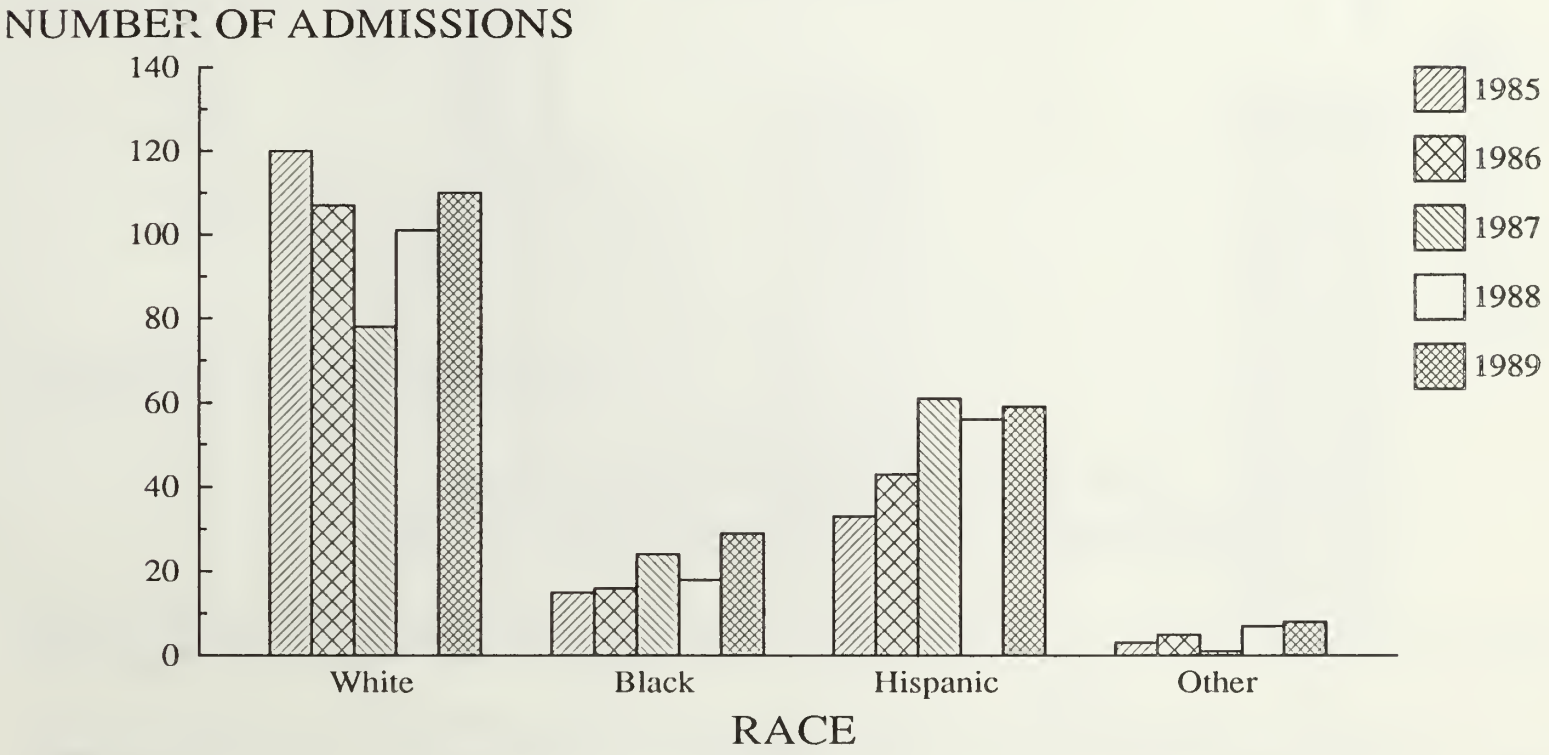
The number of bail admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court remained fairly constant from 1985 to 1988. The number of admissions for 1989 increased by thirteen percent from 1988 to 1989.



**SEX:** The number of females admitted from the Worcester Juvenile Court was at the lowest point of the five year period during 1989 at 37, while the number of males was at the highest point of the five year period at 169.

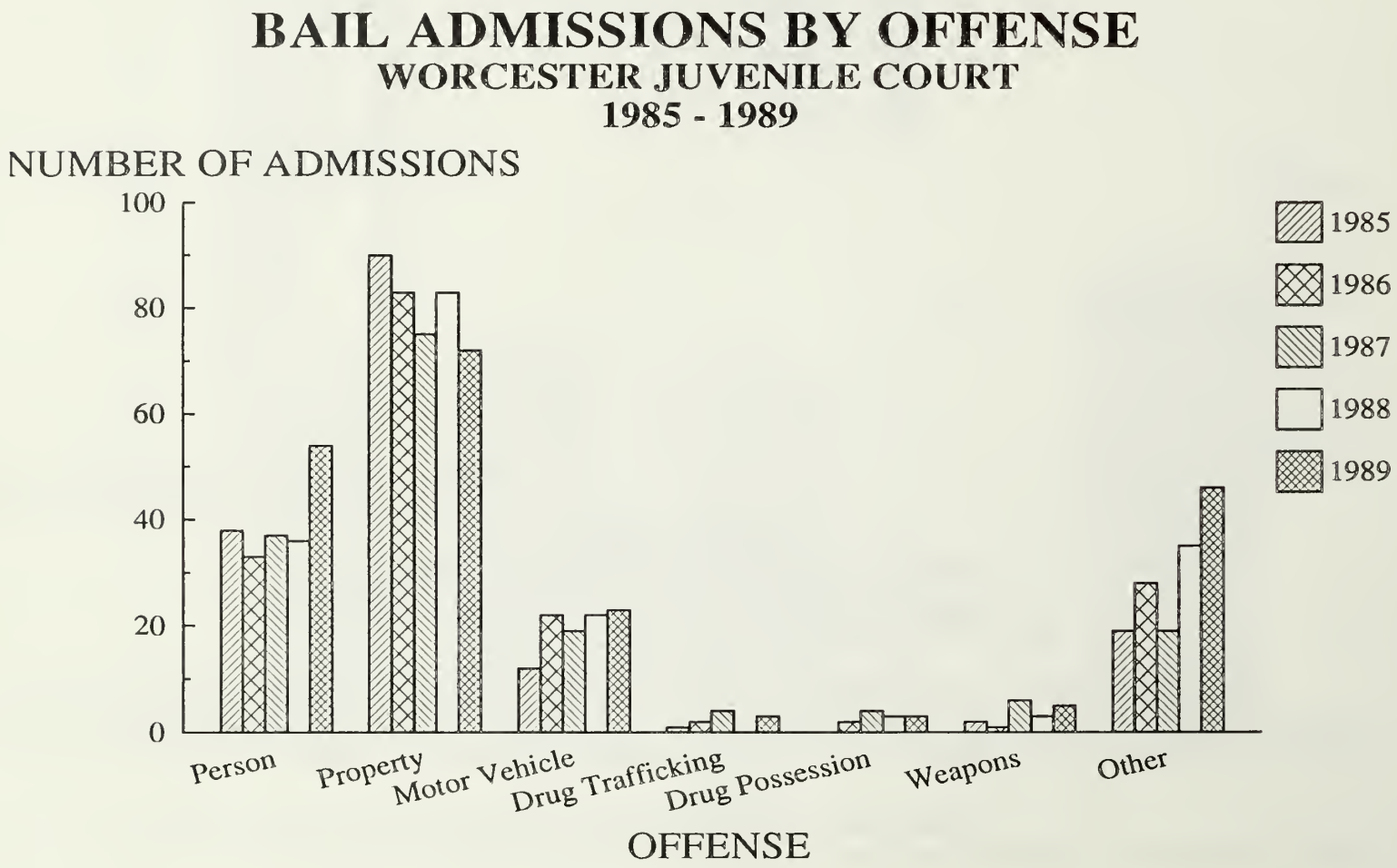
**RACE:** The proportion of bail admissions from the Worcester Juvenile Court during 1985 who were white was seventy percent and the proportion who were Hispanic was almost twenty percent (19%). However, for 1989 the proportion of the admissions who were white was down below sixty percent (53%) while the proportion of Hispanics was thirty percent.

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### WORCESTER JUVENILE COURT
### 1985 - 1989



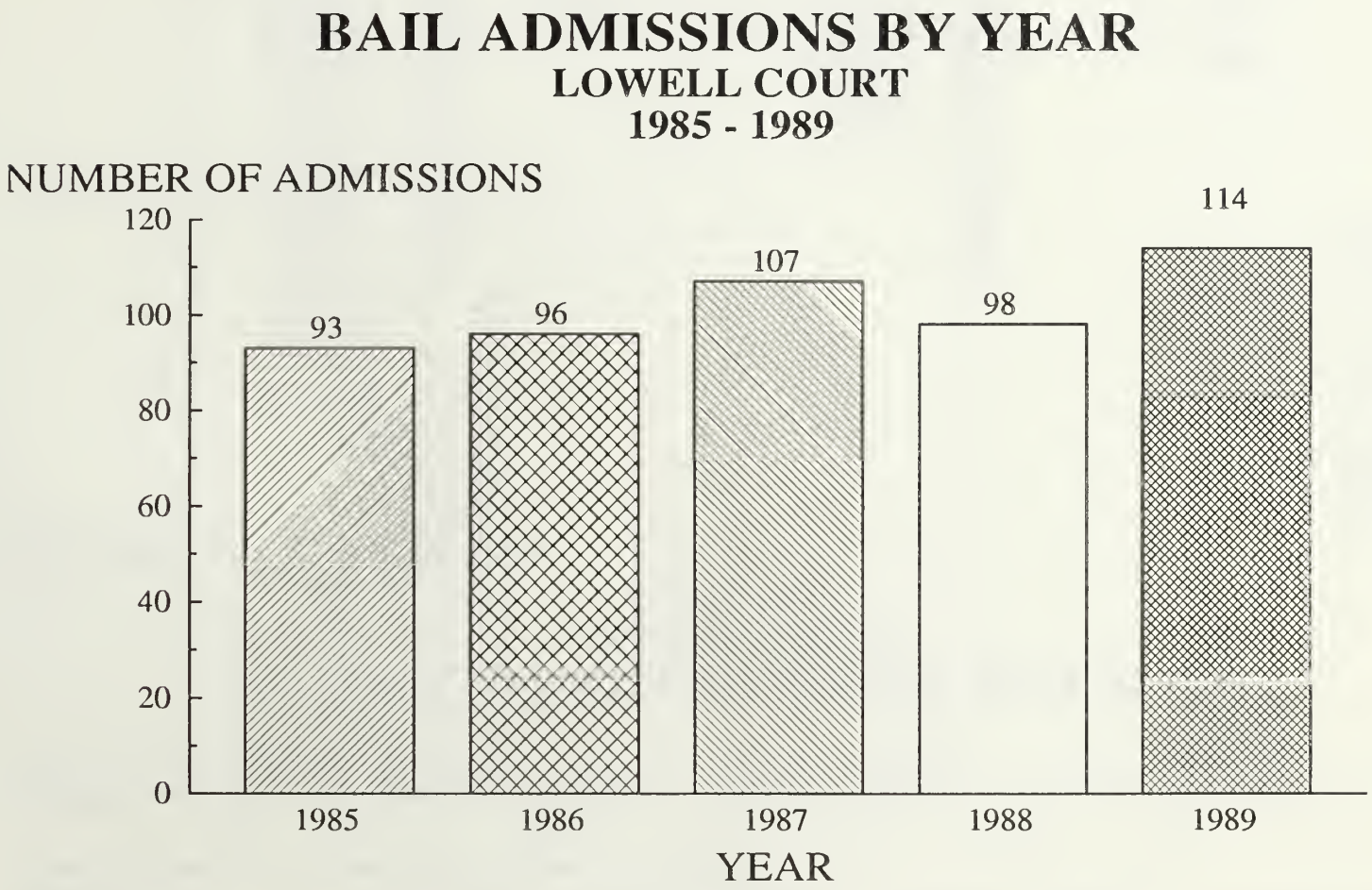
**AGE:** There were increases in the following age categories from 1988 to 1989 - twelve year olds (233%, from 3 to 10), thirteen year olds (43%, from 21 to 30), fourteen year olds (2%, from 46 to 47), and sixteen year olds (20%, from 46 to 55).

**OFFENSE:** The offense categories showing the largest increases from 1988 to 1989 were person offenses which increased by 50% (from 36 to 54), and weapons offenses which increased by 67% (from 3 to 5).



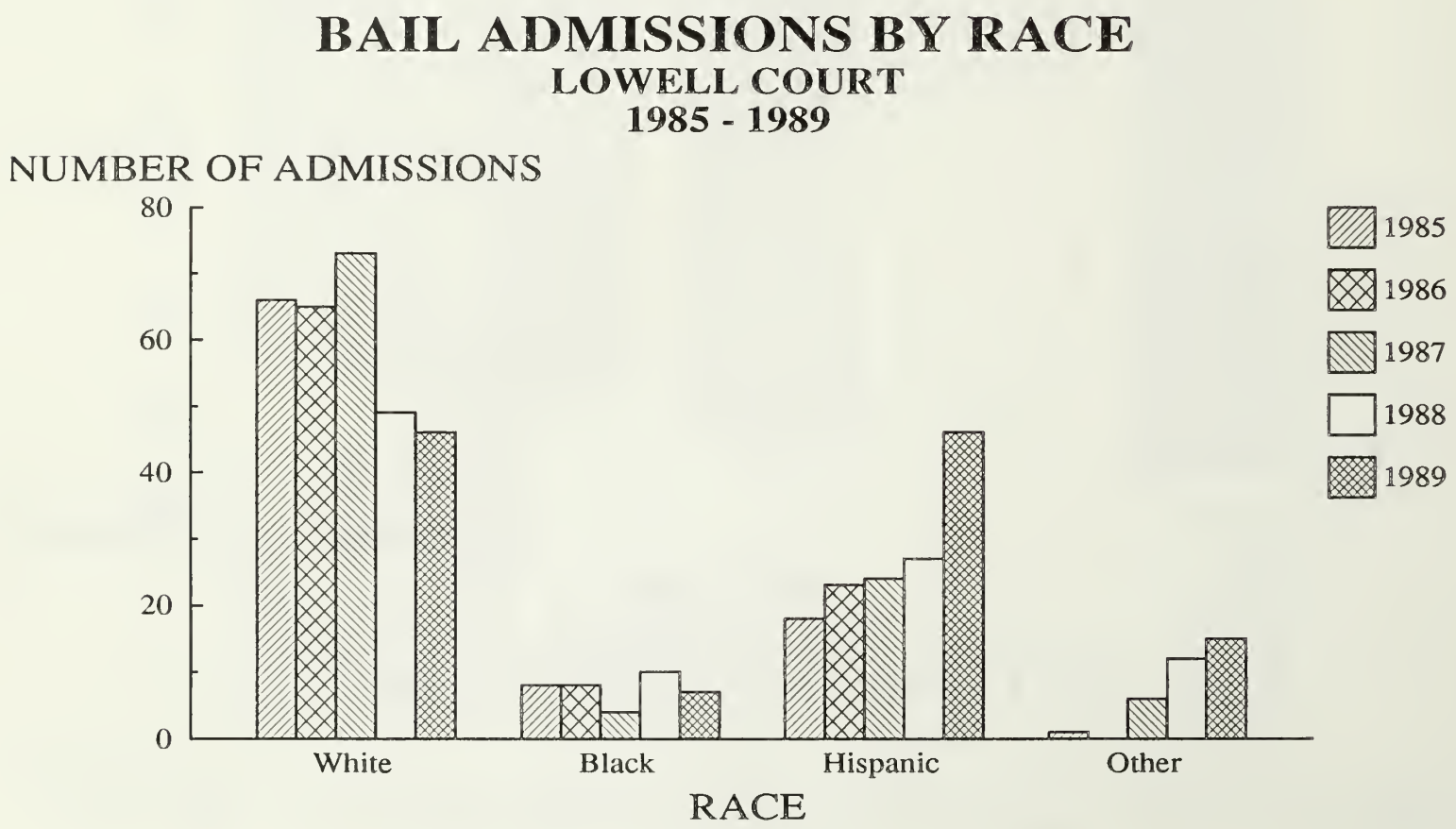
## C. Lowell Court

The number of bail detention admissions from Lowell Court increased from 1985 to 1987, decreased from 1987 to 1988, and increased from 1988 to 1989. From 1988 to 1989, there was an increase of sixteen percent in the number of bail admissions from Lowell Court.



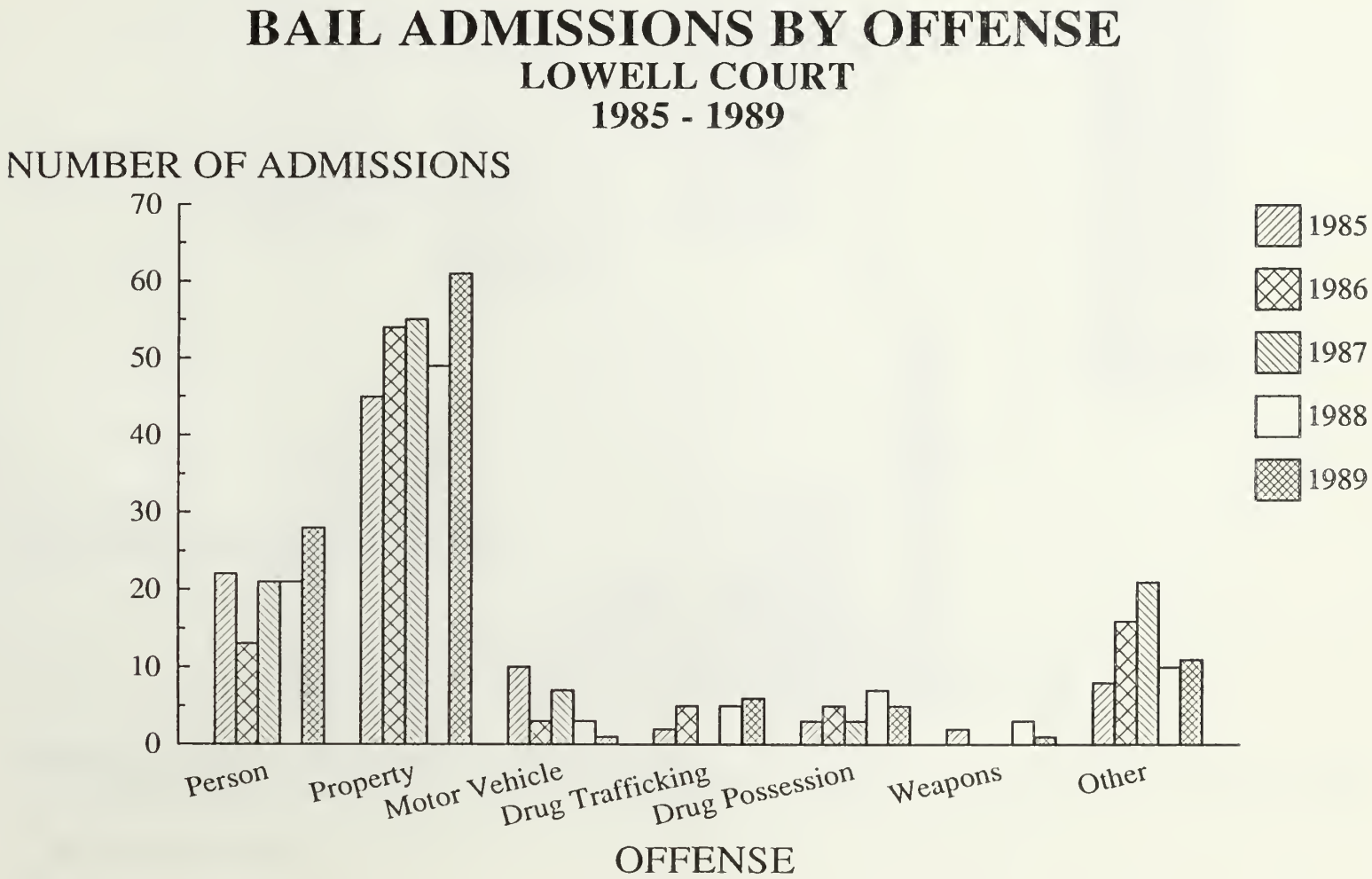
SEX: The number of female bail admissions increased by thirty-eight percent from 1988 to 1989 (from 16 to 22) and the number of male bail admissions increased by twelve percent (from 82 to 92).

RACE: The number of Hispanic bail admissions showed the largest increase in the Lowell Court from 1988 to 1989, an increase of seventy percent (from 27 to 46).



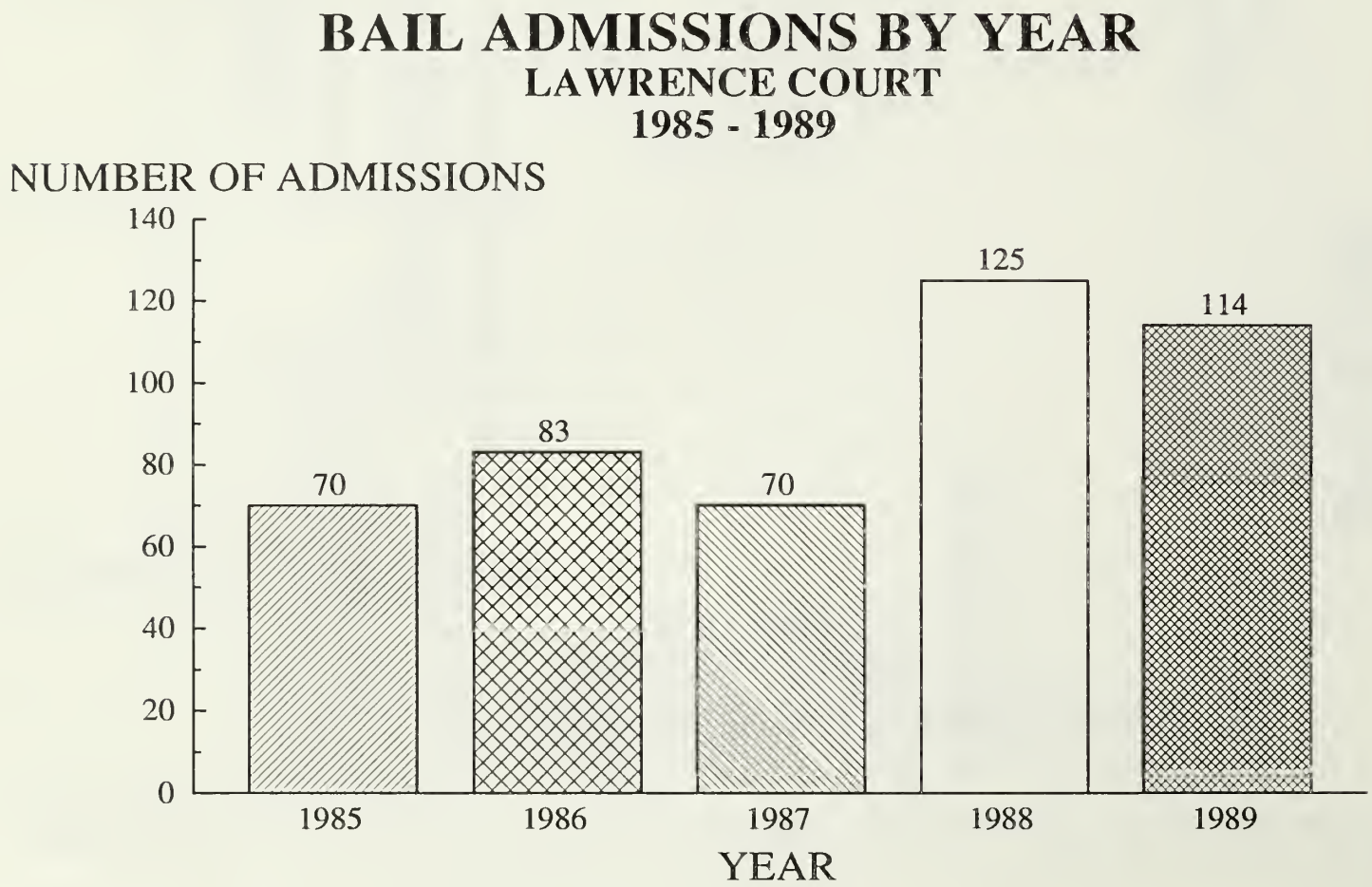
**AGE:** There were increases in the following age categories from 1988 to 1989 - thirteen year olds (150%, from 8 to 20), fourteen year olds (19%, from 26 to 31), and fifteen year olds (17%, from 30 to 35).

**OFFENSE:** The offense categories showing increases from 1988 to 1989 were person offenses - up 33% (from 21 to 28) and property offenses - up 24% (from 49 to 61).



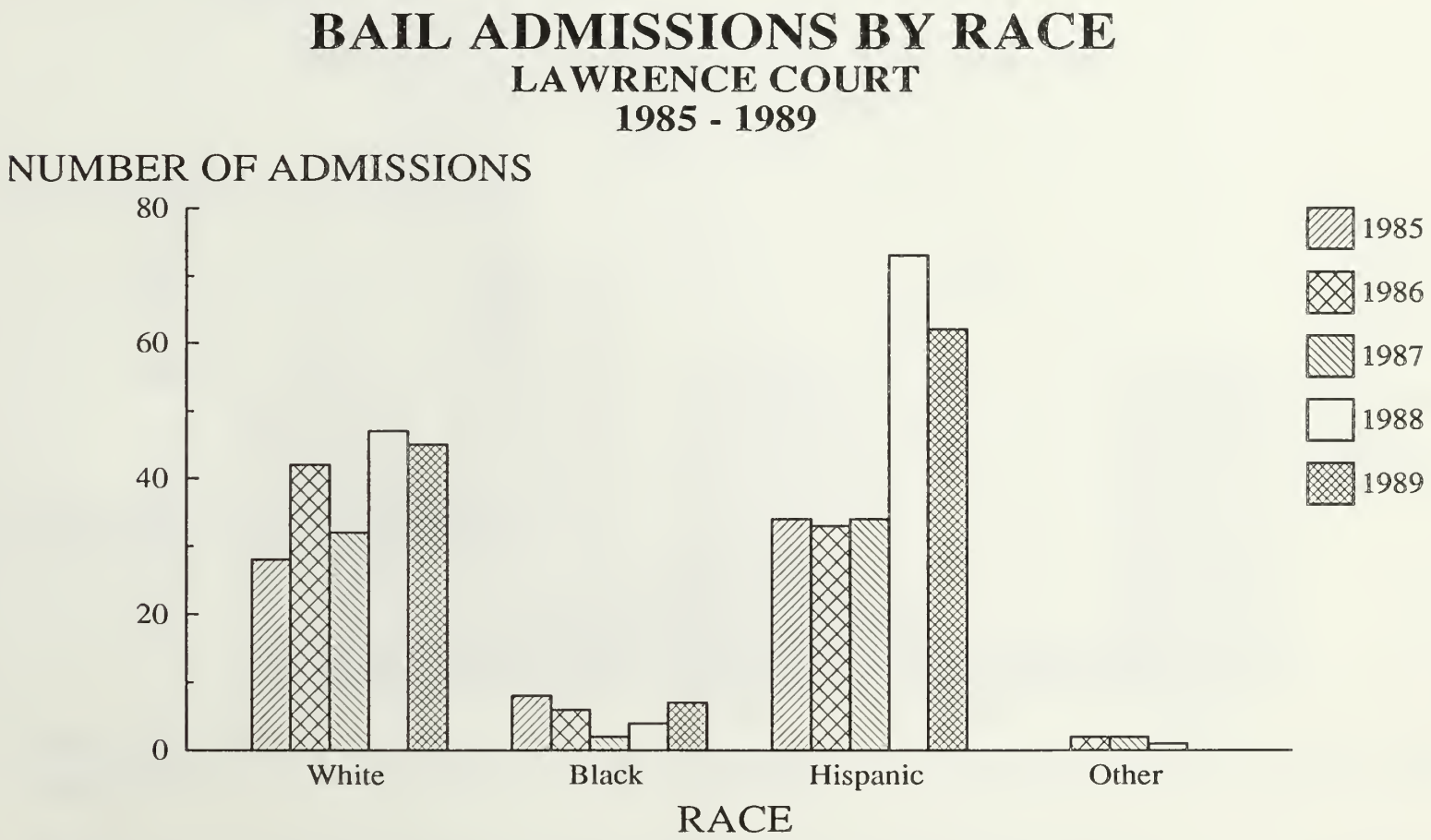
## D. Lawrence Court

The number of bail detention admissions from the Lawrence Court increased from 1985 to 1986, decreased from 1986 to 1987, increased from 1987 to 1988, and decreased from 1988 to 1989.



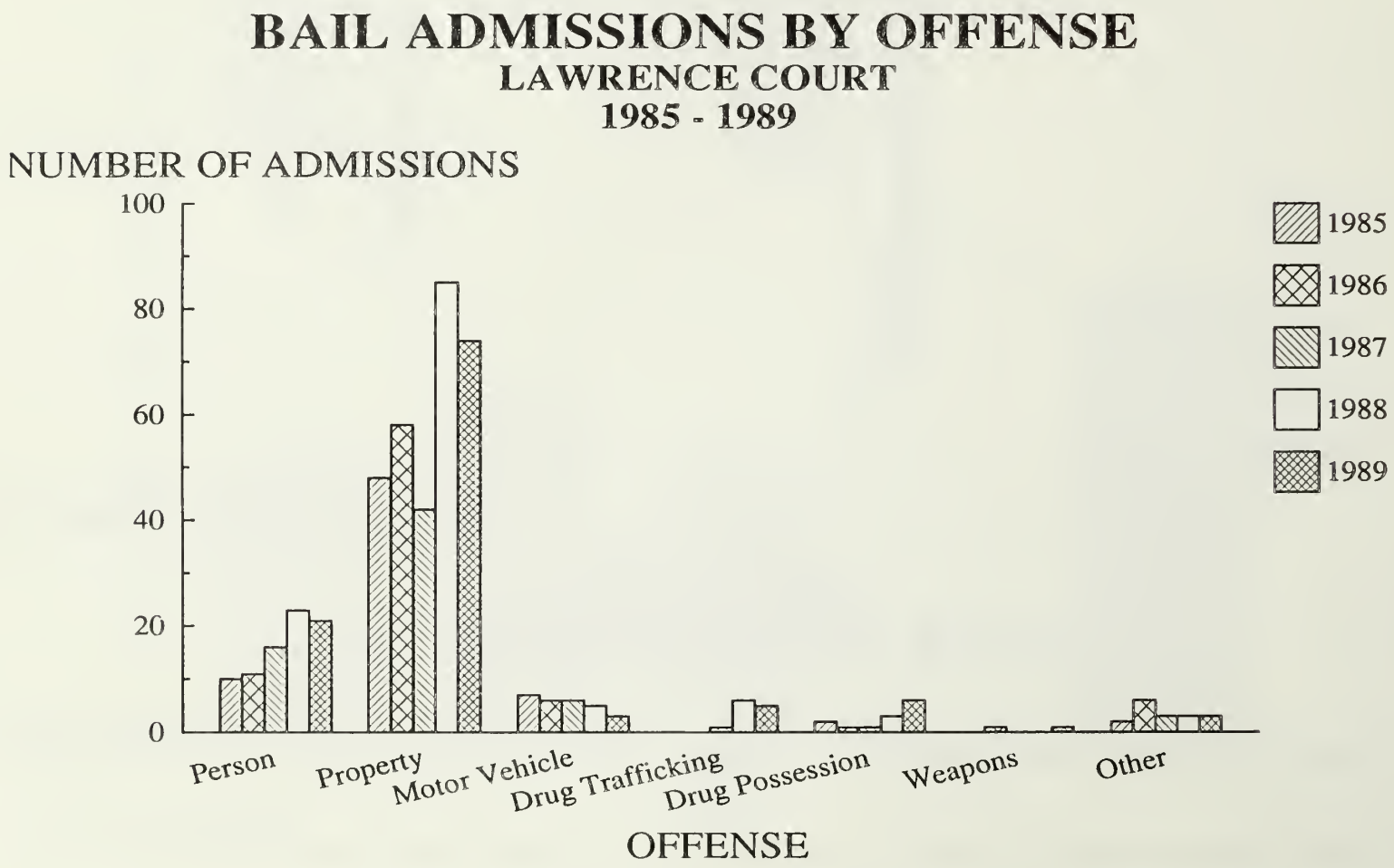
**SEX:** The number of females decreased by fifty-eight percent from 1988 to 1989 (from 19 to 8) while the number of males remained the same (at 106).

**RACE:** The only race category that showed an increase from 1988 to 1989 was black bail admissions which increased by 75% (from 4 to 7). All other race categories showed decreases.



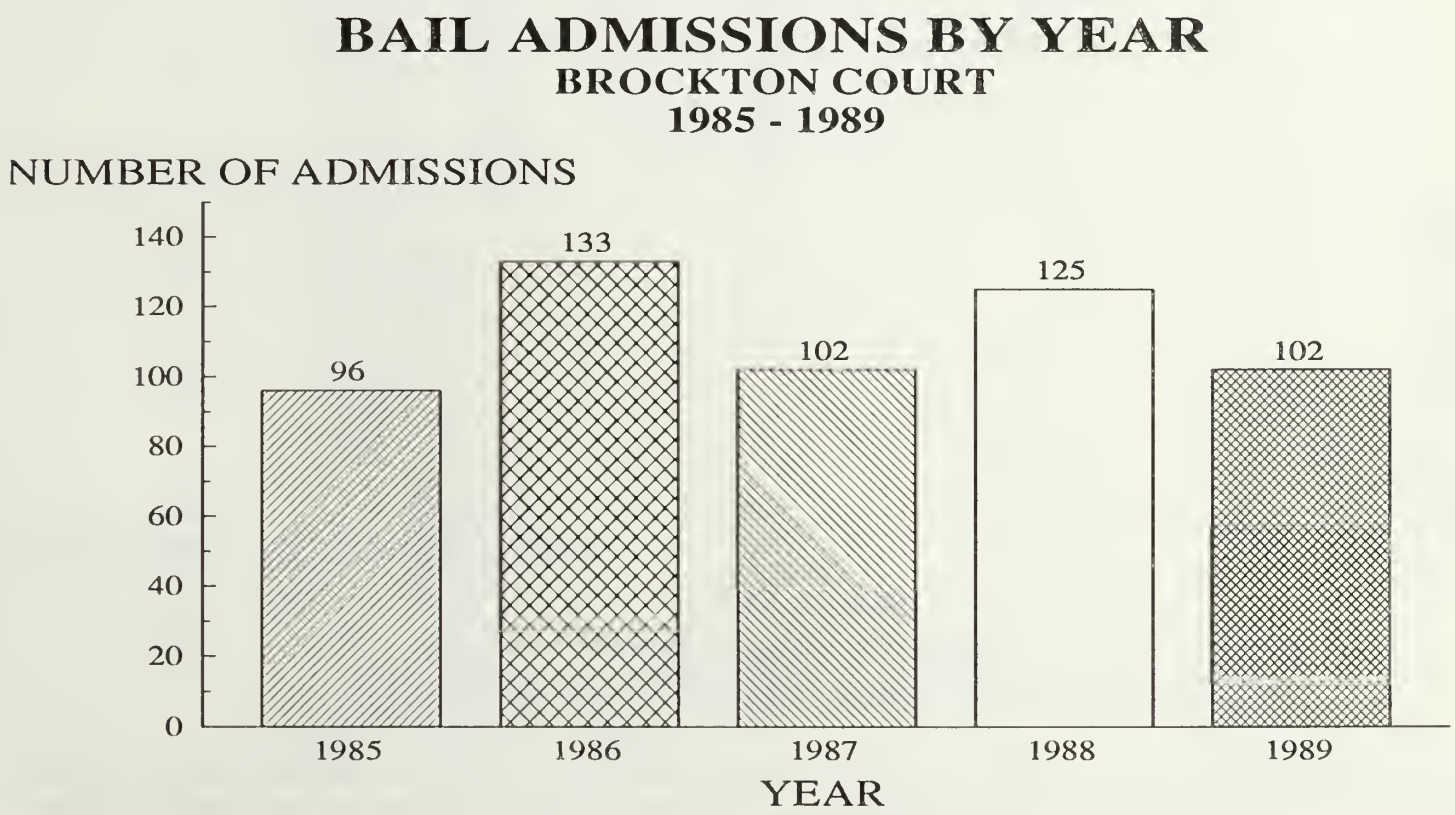
**AGE:** The two age categories showing decreases from 1988 to 1989 were sixteen year olds who decreased by twenty-nine percent (from 38 to 27) and seventeen year olds who decreased by seventy-nine percent (from 19 to 4).

**OFFENSE:** The only offense category that showed an increase from 1988 to 1989 was non-drug trafficking offenses which doubled (from 3 to 6).



## E. Brockton Court

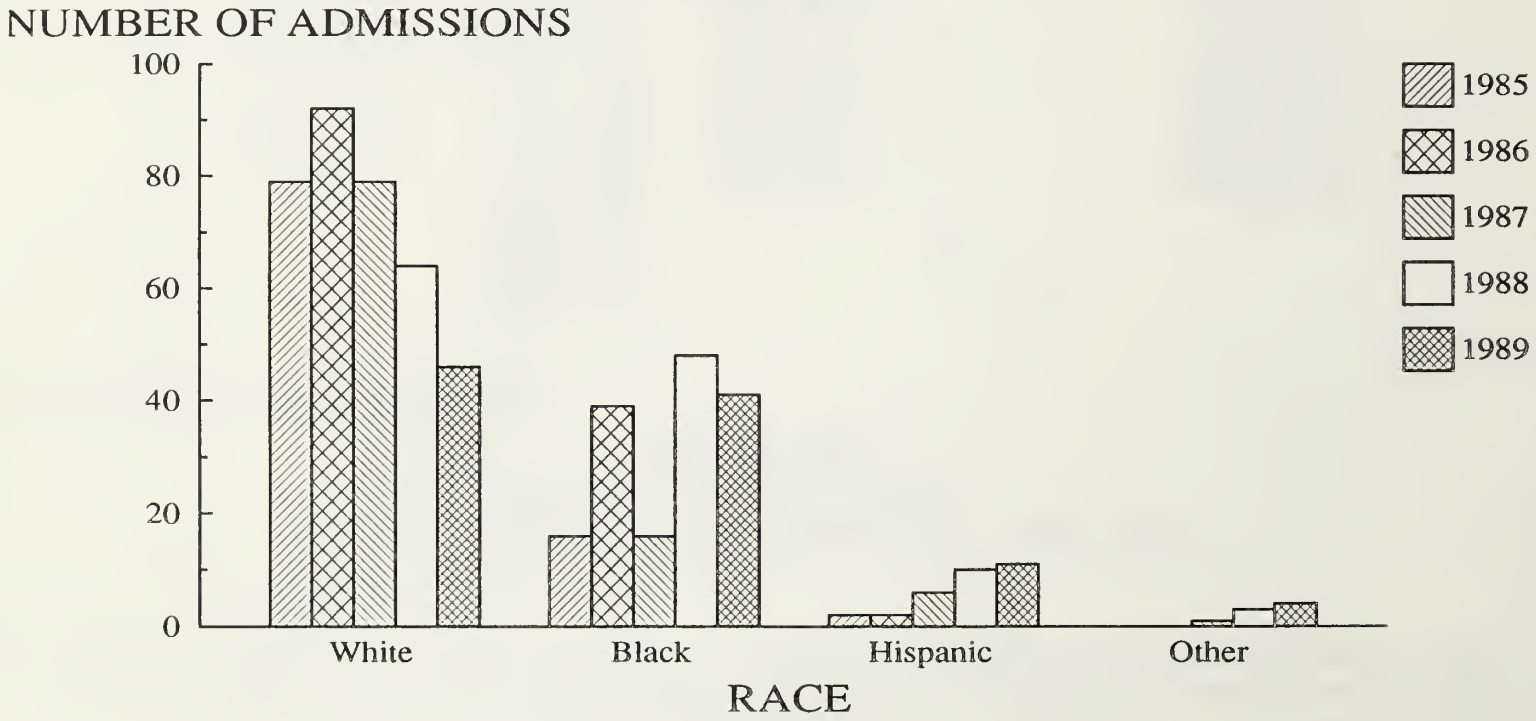
The number of bail detention admissions from the Brockton Court increased by almost forty percent (37%) from 1985 to 1986 to the highest level during the five year period from 1985 to 1989. The number of admissions decreased by almost twenty-five percent (23%) from 1986 to 1987, increased by almost twenty-five percent (23%) from 1987 to 1988, and decreased by eighteen percent from 1988 to 1989.



**SEX:** The number of female bail admissions from the Brockton Court increased by thirty-two percent from 1988 to 1989 (from 25 to 33), while the number of male bail admissions decreased by thirty-one percent (from 100 to 69).

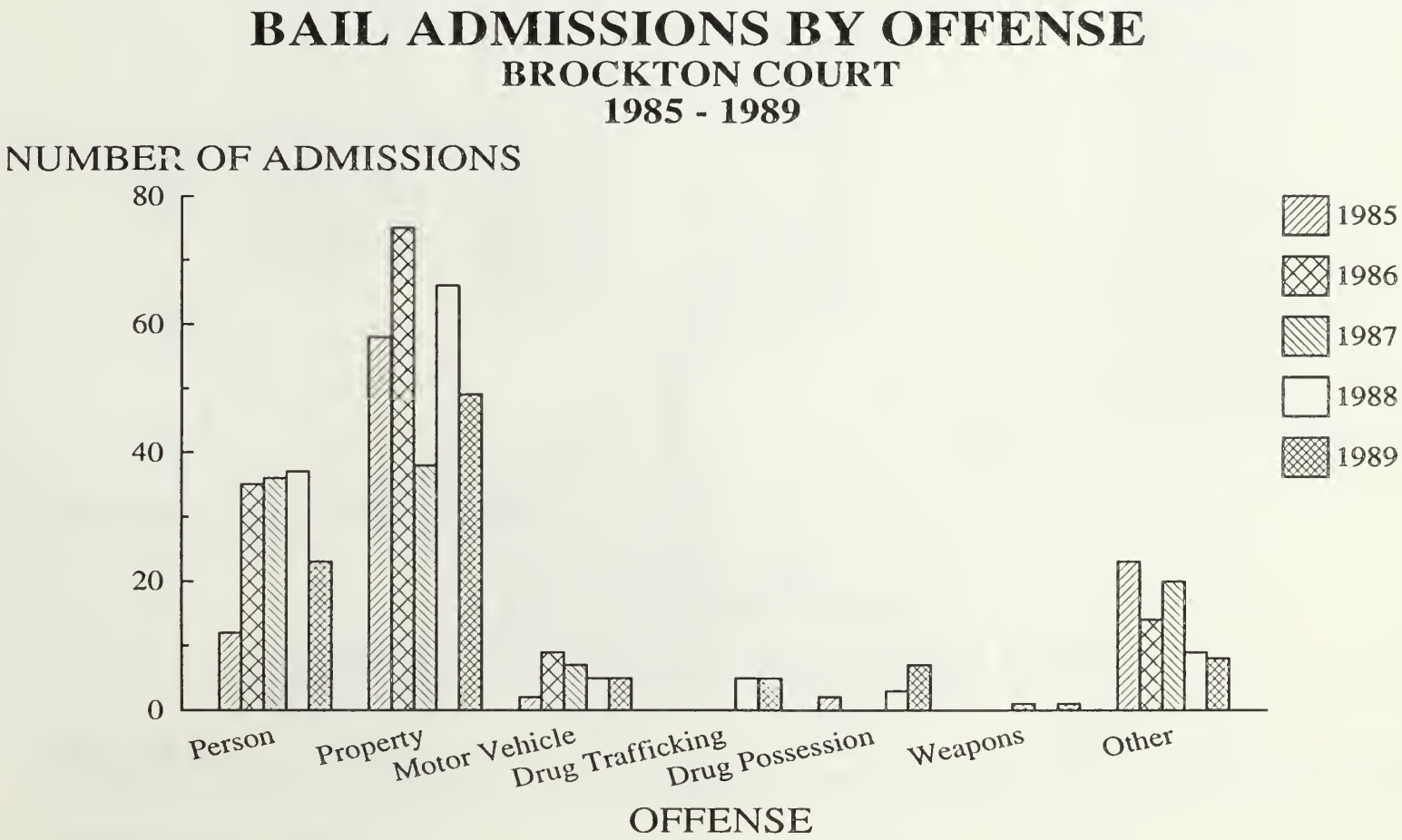
**RACE:** Hispanic bail admissions increased slightly from 1988 to 1989, up ten percent (from 10 to 11). White and black bail admissions decreased from 1988 to 1989 by 28% and 15% respectively.

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### BROCKTON COURT
### 1985 - 1989



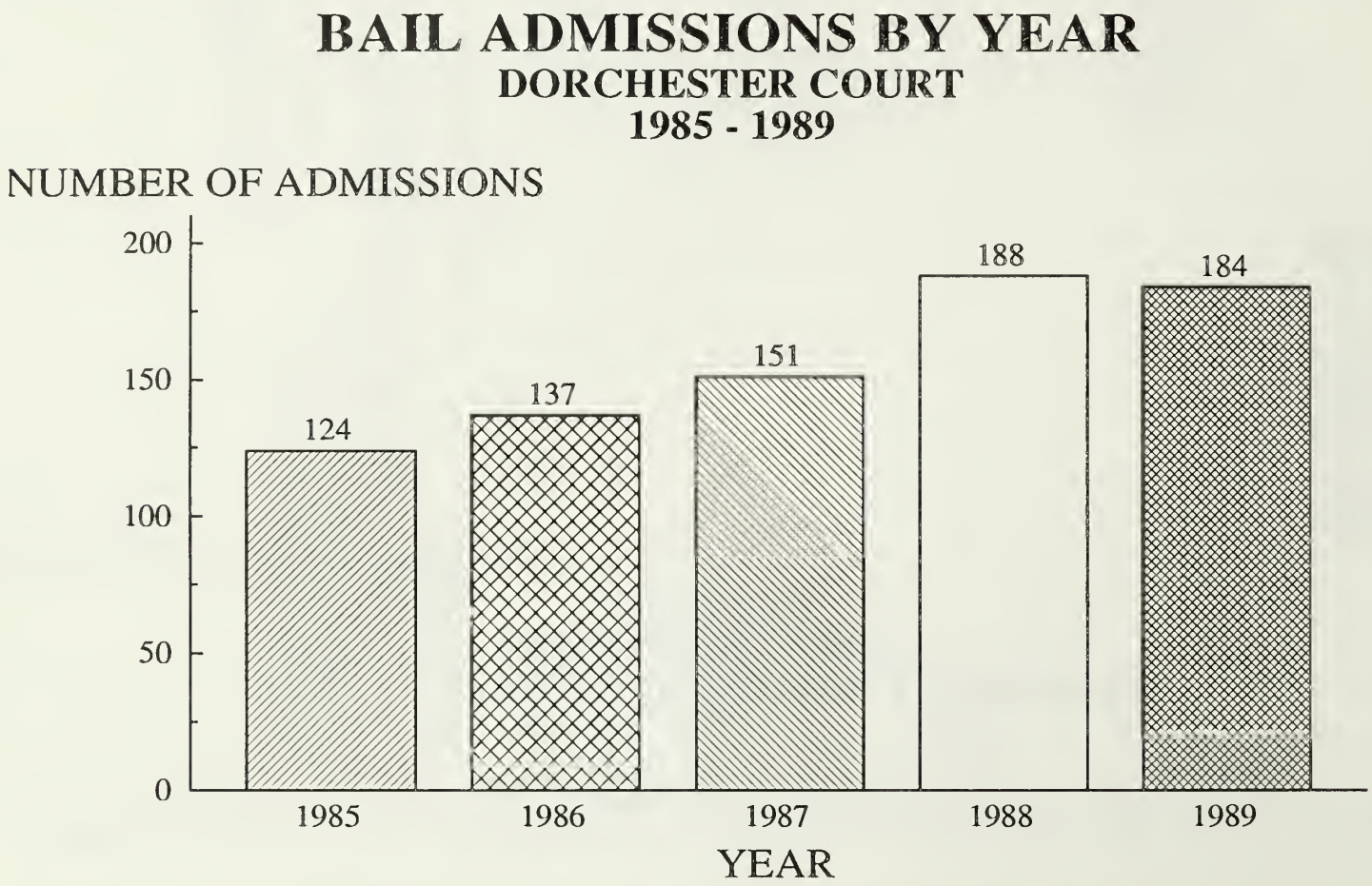
**AGE:** The only age category showing an increase from 1988 to 1989 was fifteen year olds, up twelve percent (from 33 to 37). The age category showing the largest decrease was seventeen year olds, down sixty-seven percent (from 6 to 2).

**OFFENSE:** The offense category showing the largest decrease was person offenses, which decreased by thirty-eight percent (from 37 to 23). Property offenses also decreased, down twenty-six percent (from 66 to 49).



## F. Dorchester Court

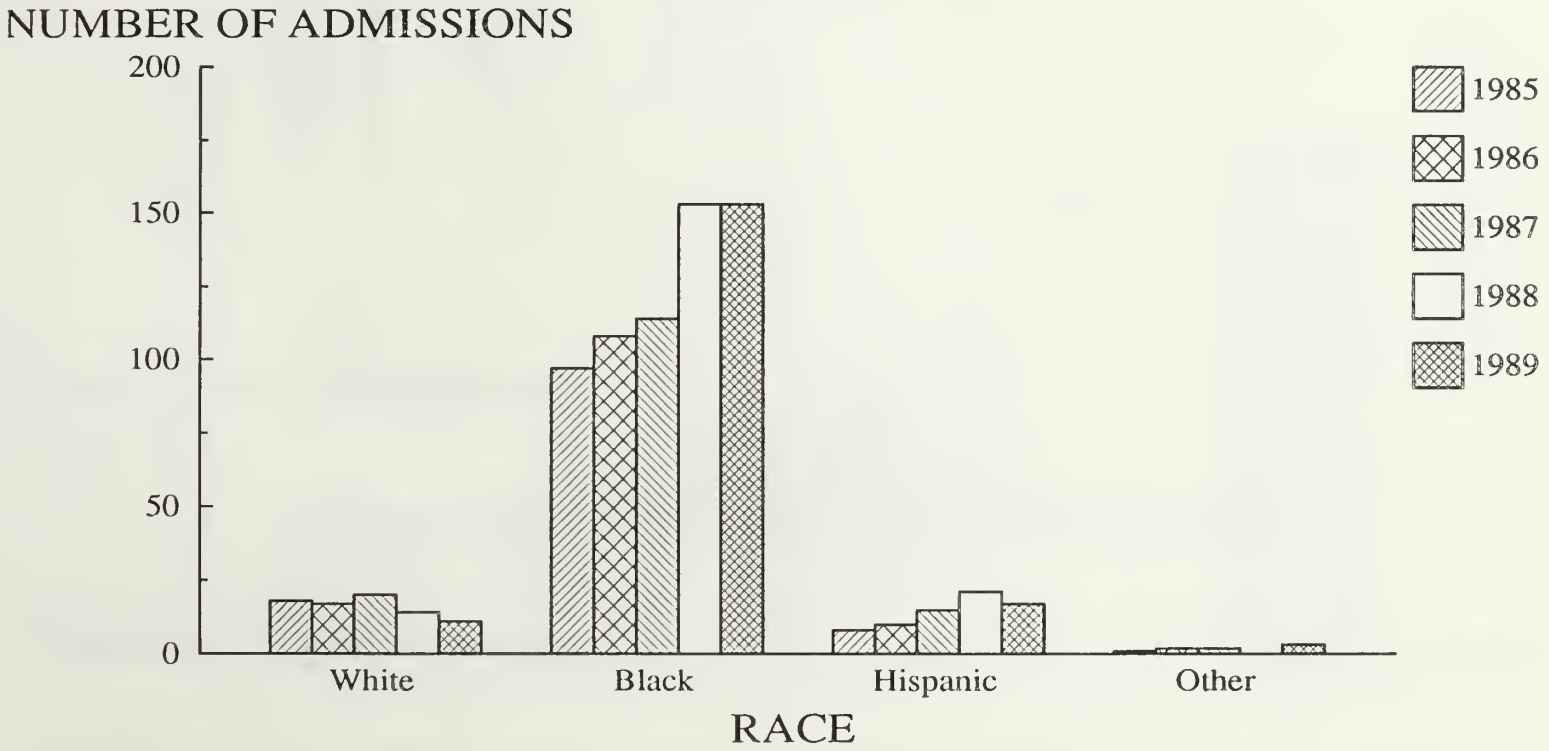
The number of bail detention admissions from the Dorchester Court showed increases from 1985 to 1988, but decreased from 1988 to 1989. There were 188 bail admissions in 1988 and 184 admissions in 1989, a decrease of two percent.



**SEX:** The number of female bail admissions from the Dorchester Court increased by twenty-one percent (from 14 to 17) while the number of male bail admissions decreased by four percent (from 174 to 167).

**RACE:** From 1988 to 1989, there were decreases in white bail admissions (from 14 to 11) and decreases in Hispanic bail admissions (from 21 to 17).

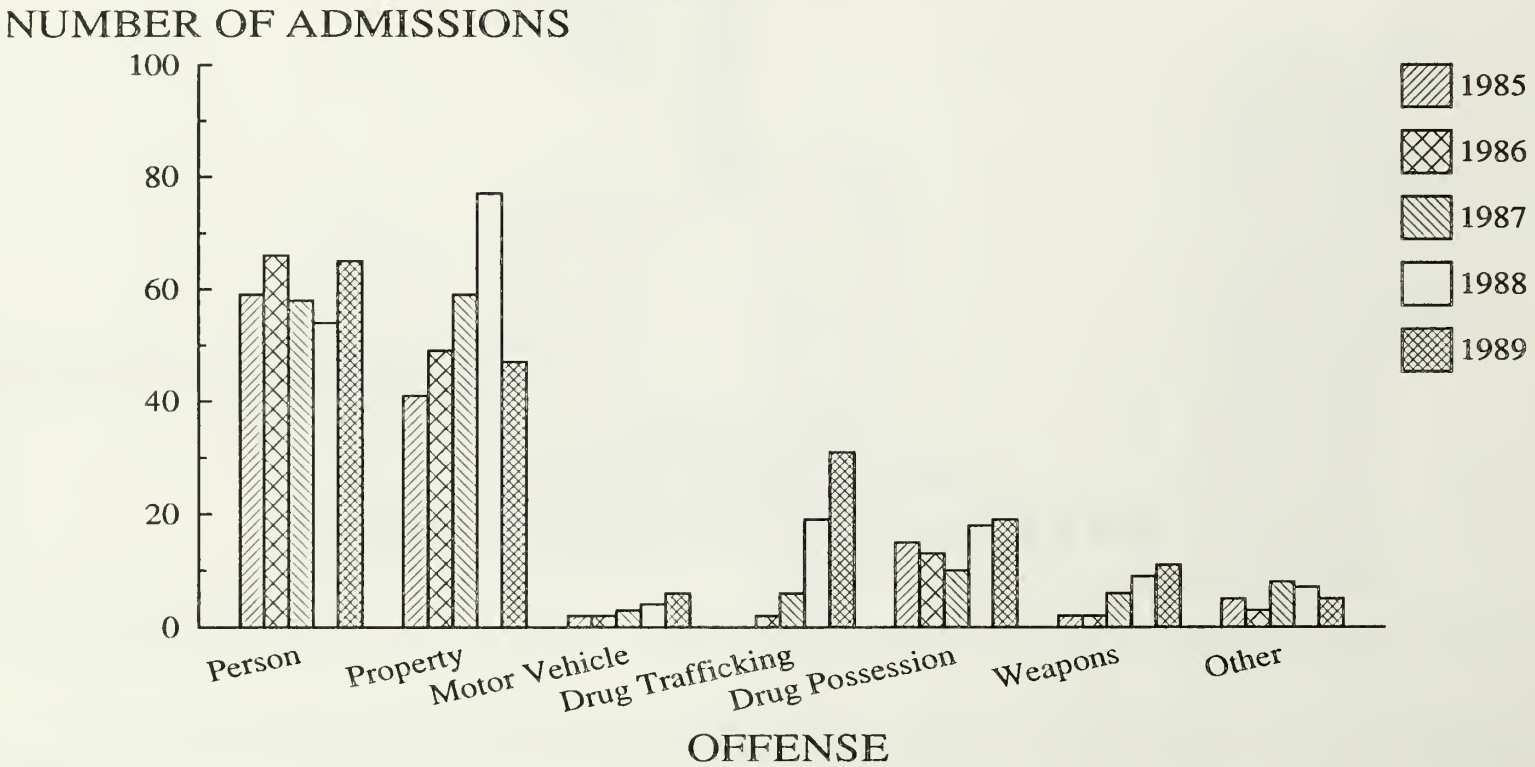
## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### DORCHESTER COURT
### 1985 - 1989



**AGE:** There were increases in two age categories from 1988 to 1989 - for fourteen year olds and fifteen year olds. For fourteen year olds, there was an increase of 76% (from 25 to 44) and for fifteen year olds, there was an increase of five percent (from 58 to 61).

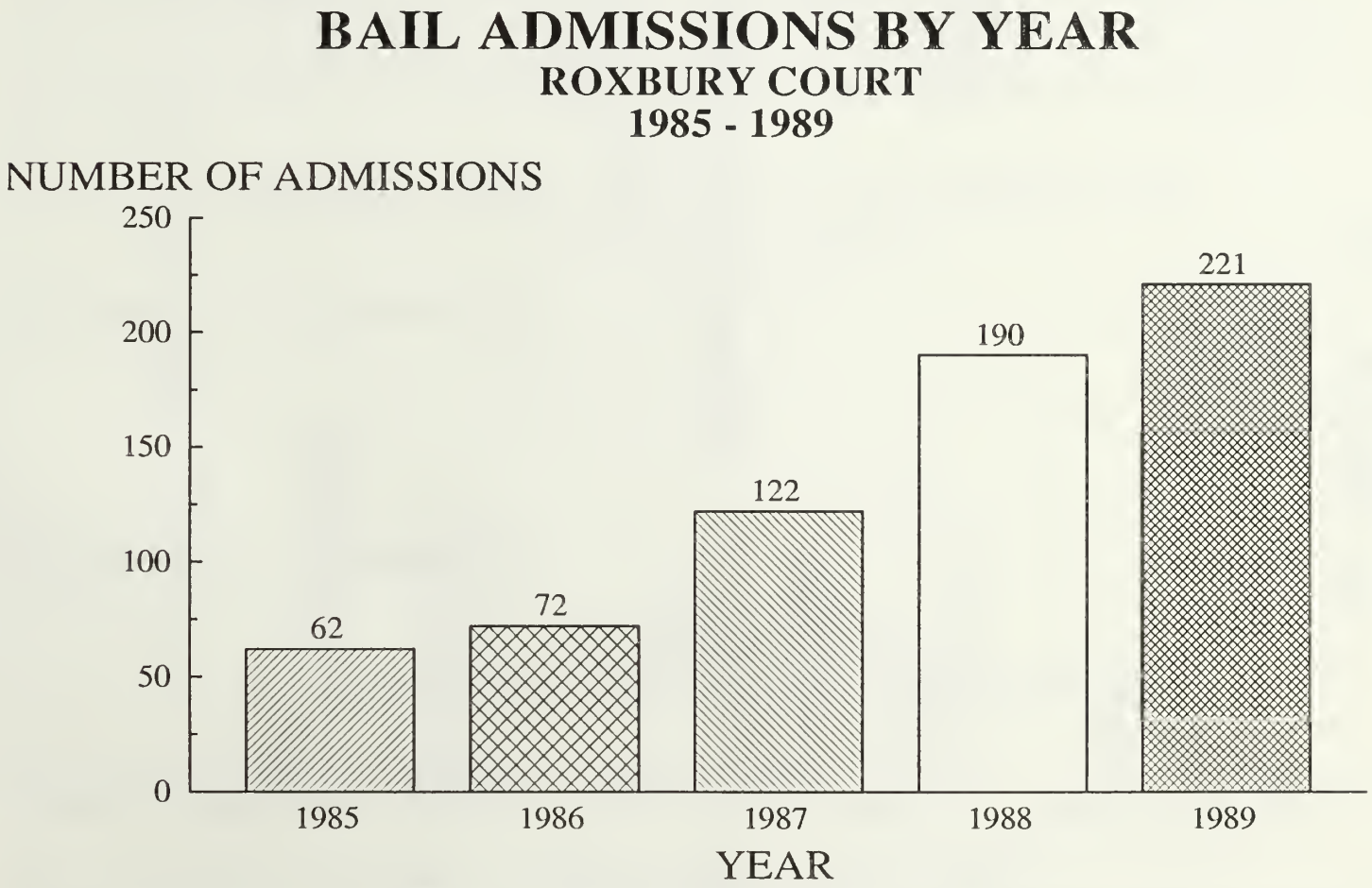
**OFFENSE:** From 1988 to 1989, there was a decrease in the number of bail admissions for property offenses, down thirty-nine percent (from 77 to 47).

## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY OFFENSE
### DORCHESTER COURT
### 1985 - 1989



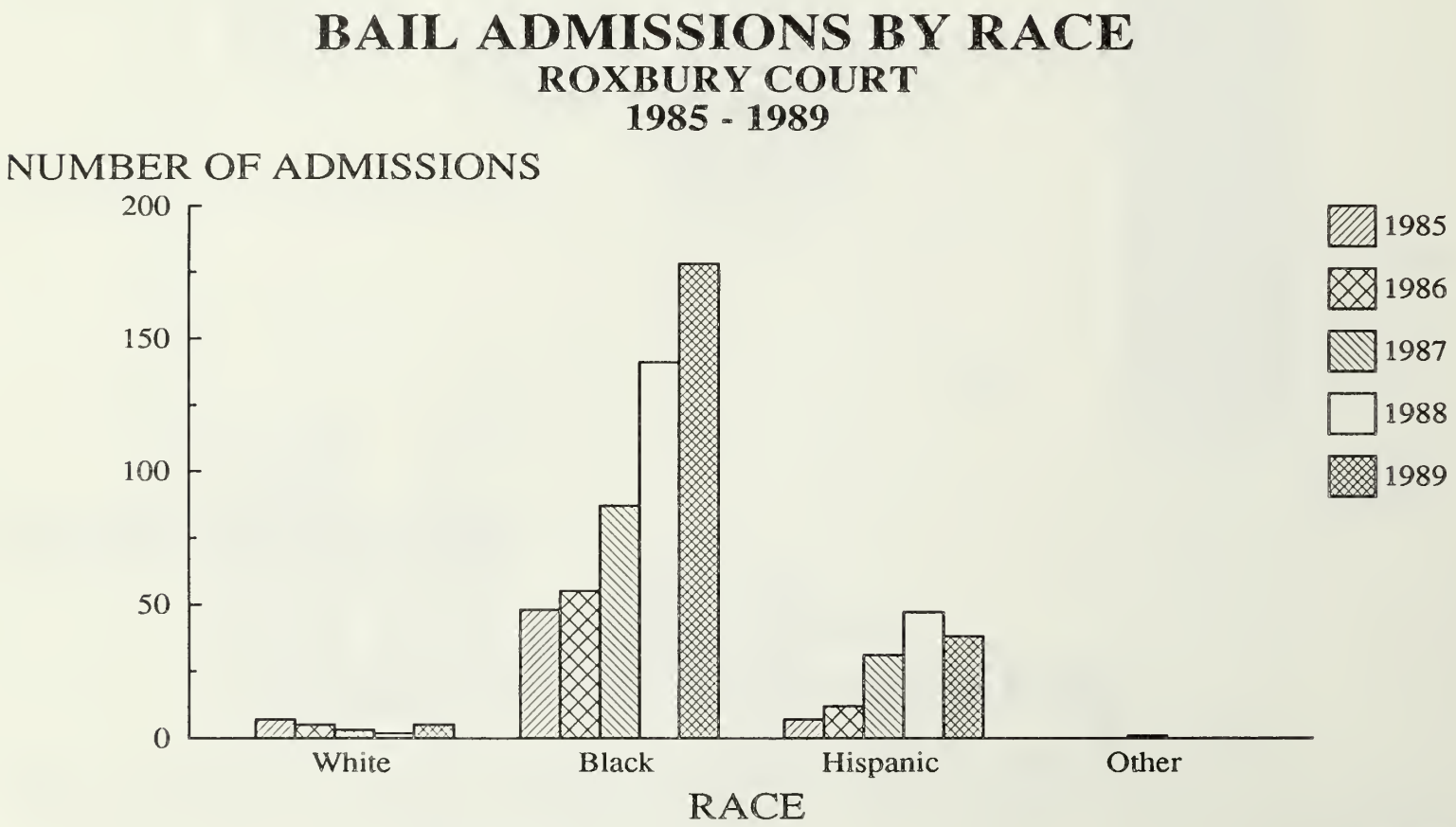
## G. Roxbury Court

The number of bail detention admissions from the Roxbury Court has shown a continual increase over the five year period from 1985 to 1989. From 1985 to 1989, the admissions from Roxbury Court increased by over two hundred and fifty percent (256%). Compared to 1988, the admissions from this court during 1989 increased by sixteen percent.



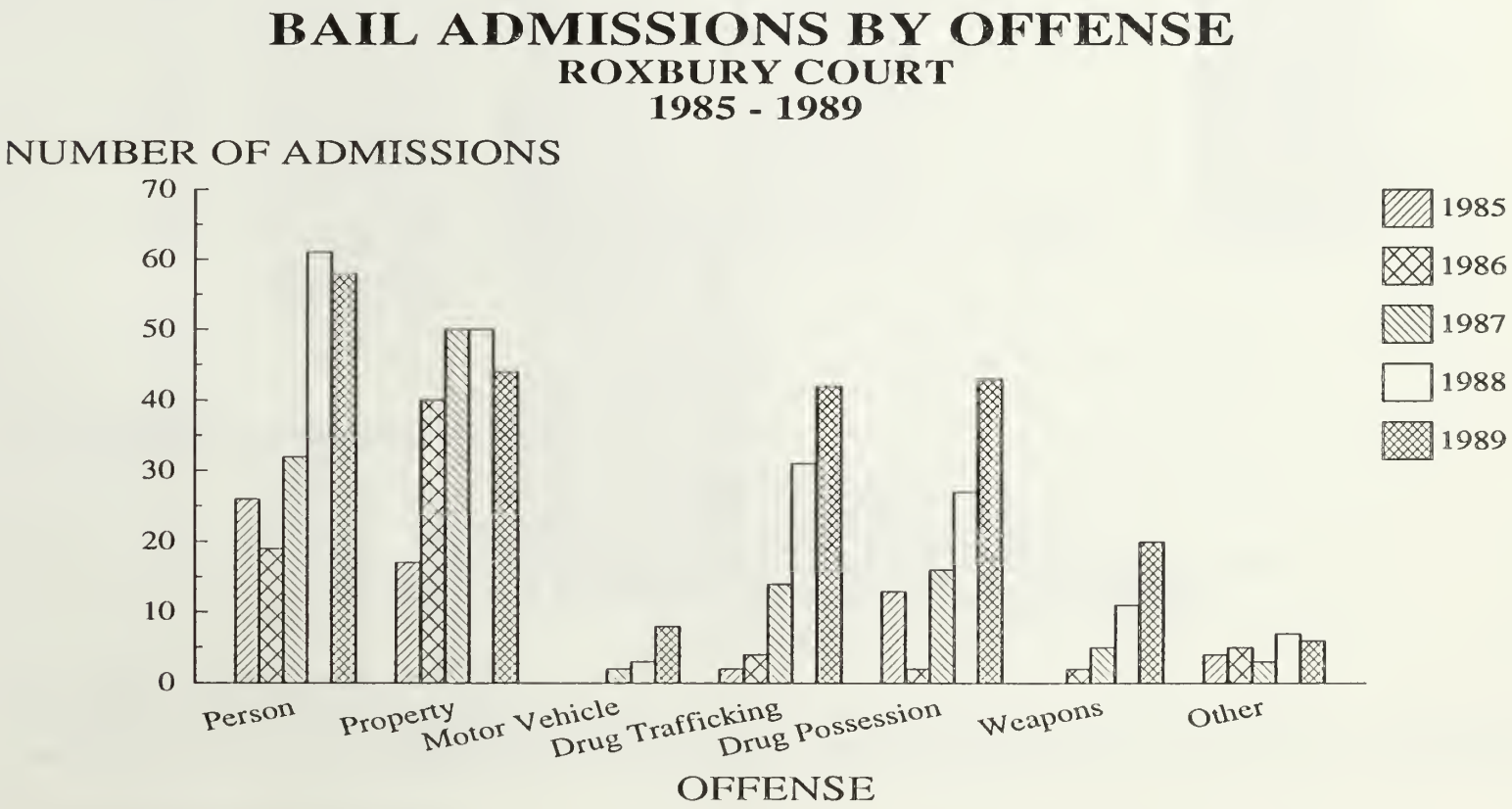
SEX: From 1988 to 1989, there were increases in both male and female bail detention admissions. Female admissions doubled (from 12 to 24), while male admissions increased by eleven percent (from 178 to 197).

RACE: From 1988 to 1989, the only category showing a decrease was for Hispanics. The number of Hispanic bail admissions from Roxbury Court decreased by nineteen percent (from 47 to 38).



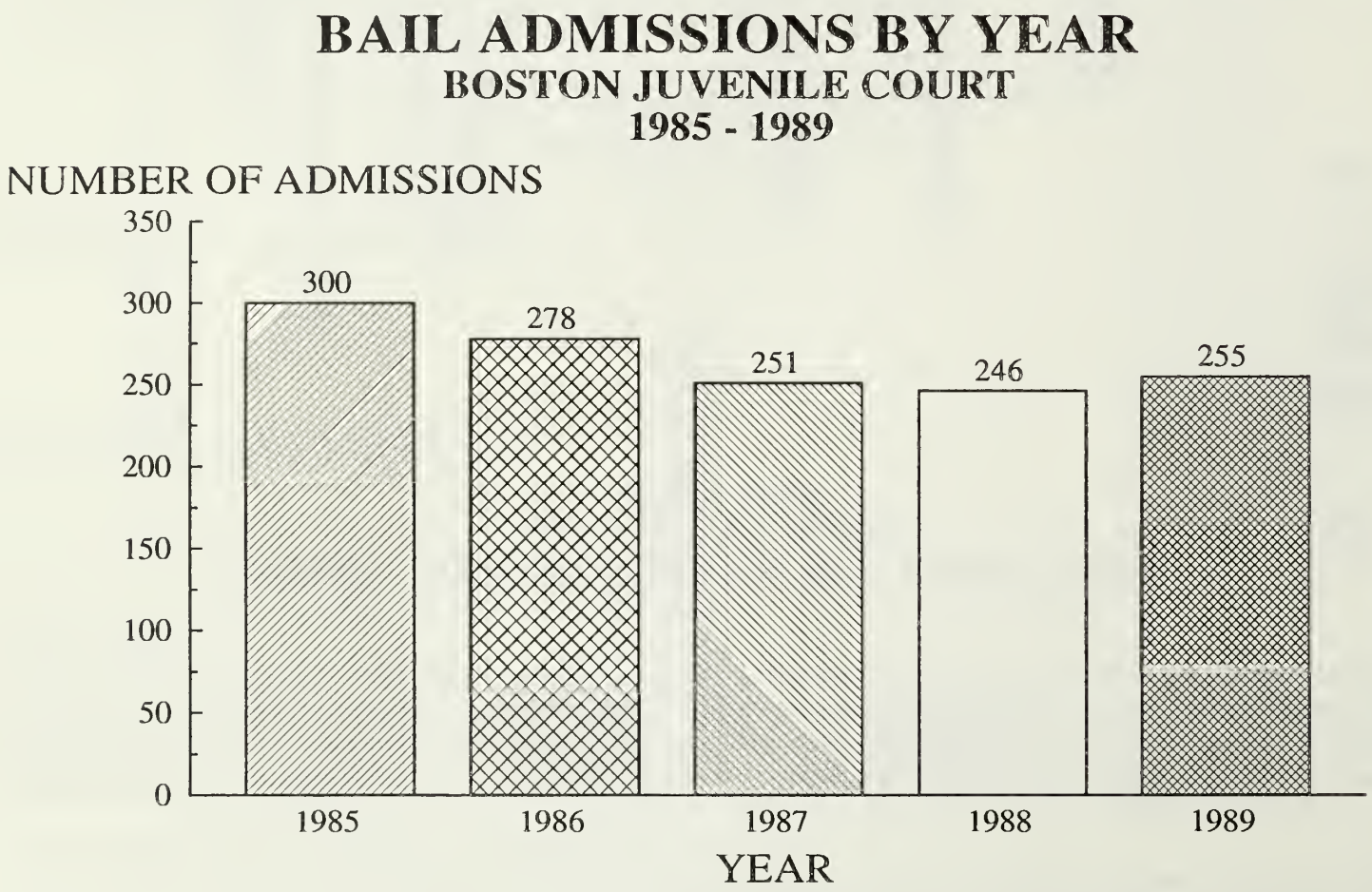
**AGE:** From 1988 to 1989, the following age categories showed increases - twelve year olds, fourteen year olds, fifteen year olds, and sixteen year olds. Twelve year old admissions increased by 600% (from 1 to 7), fourteen year old admissions increased by fifty-six percent (from 25 to 39), fifteen year old admissions increased by twenty-seven percent (from 59 to 75), and sixteen year old admissions increased by three percent (from 75 to 77).

**OFFENSE:** The following offense categories showed increases from 1988 to 1989 for Roxbury Court - motor vehicle offenses, drug trafficking offenses, other drug offenses, and weapons offenses. Bail admissions for motor vehicle offenses increased by 167% (from 3 to 8), admissions for drug trafficking offenses increased by thirty-five percent (from 31 to 42), admissions for other drug offenses increased by fifty-nine percent (from 27 to 43), and admissions for weapons offenses increased by eighty-two percent (from 11 to 20).



## H. Boston Juvenile Court

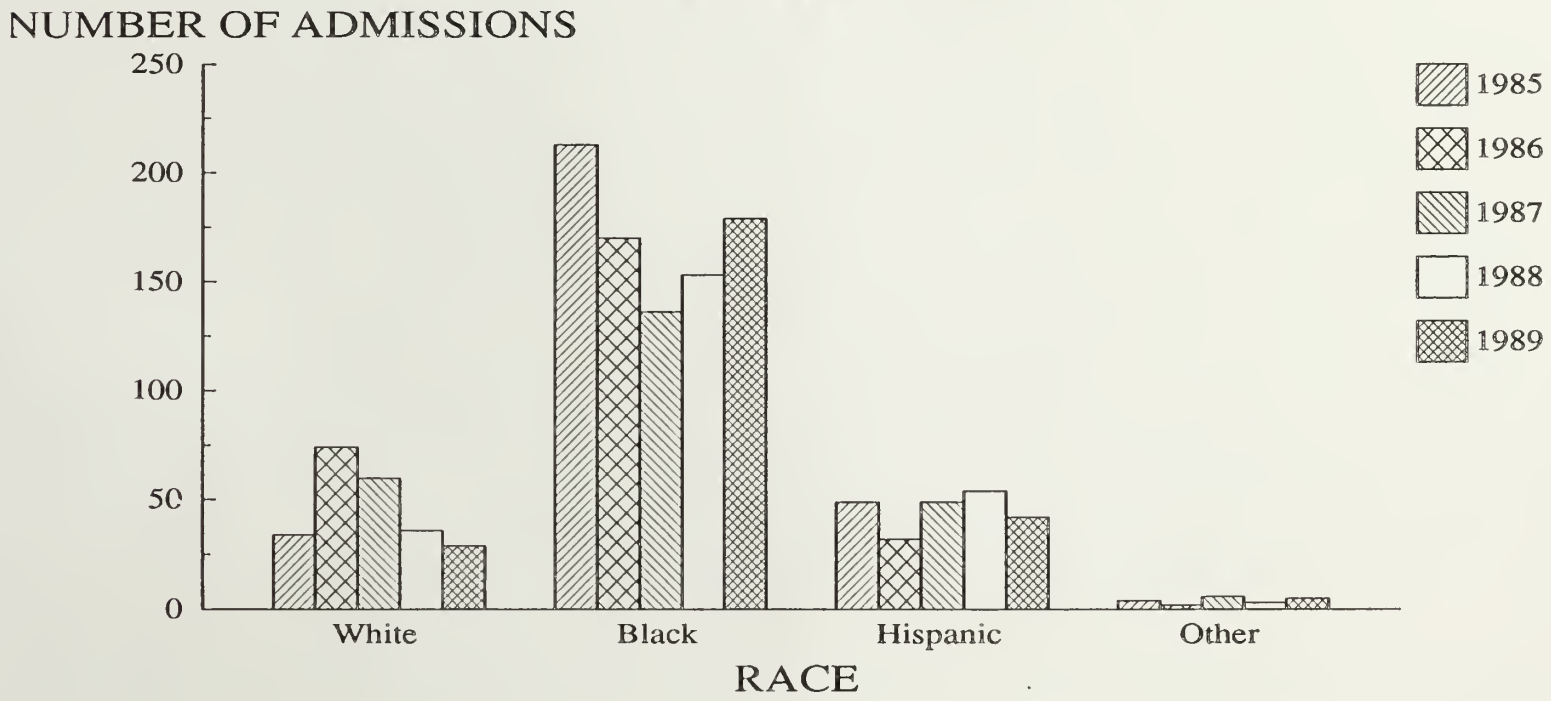
The number of bail detention admissions from Boston Juvenile Court decreased from 1985 to 1986 and 1986 to 1987, increased from 1987 to 1988 and 1988 to 1989. From 1988 to 1989, there was an eighteen percent increase in the number of bail admissions from Boston Juvenile Court (255 to 300).



**SEX:** From 1988 to 1989, the number of bail admissions who were female increased almost fifty percent (from 46 to 68) while the number who were male increased by eleven percent (from 209 to 232).

**RACE:** All racial categories had increases in numbers from 1988 to 1989, with the largest increase occuring for bail admissions who were black, up nineteen percent (from 179 to 213).

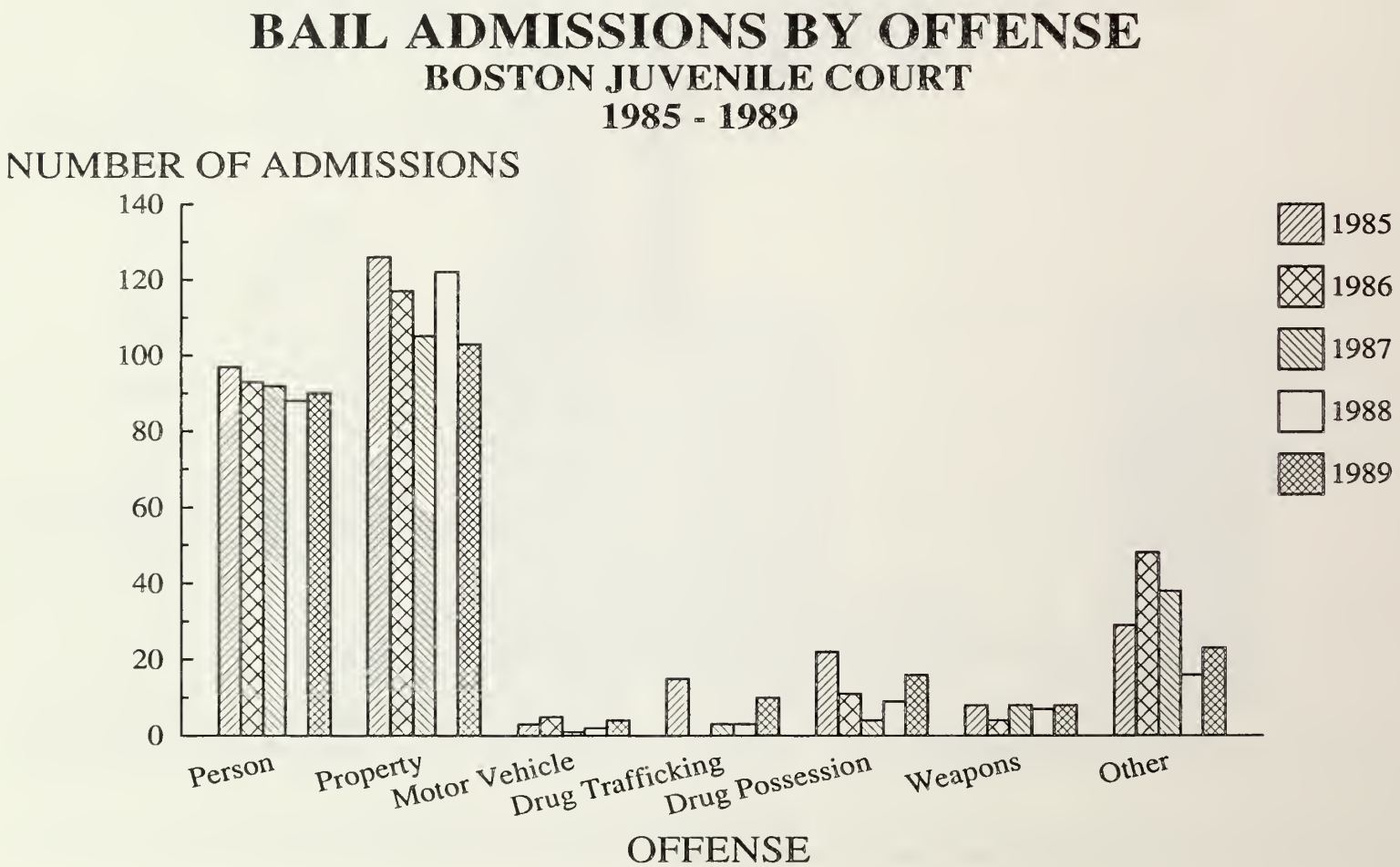
## BAIL ADMISSIONS BY RACE
### BOSTON JUVENILE COURT
### 1985 - 1989



190 9294

**AGE:** From 1988 to 1989, there were two age categories that showed decreases. For fourteen year olds, there was a decrease of eight percent (from 61 to 56), and for seventeen year olds there was a decrease of nineteen percent (from 21 to 17).

**OFFENSE:** All offense categories showed an increase from 1988 to 1989. The largest increase was in bail admissions for property offenses, up twenty-two percent (from 103 to 126).



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